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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS RESUMED FIFTY-FIRST SESSION

From 31 January to 15 September 1997

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO A MAIN COMMITTEE

51/30 J Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan

Date: 25 April 1997	Meeting: 97
Adopted without a vote	Draft: A/51/L.71 and Add.1

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1089 (1996) of 13 December 1996 and 1099 (1997) of 14 March 1997, and the statement by the President of the Security Council of 7 February 1997, 1/ in which the Council expressed its deep concern over the worsening of the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan,

Recalling also the statement by the President of the Security Council of 12 March 1997 2/ concerning the security and safety of United Nations and other international personnel associated with United Nations operations, as well as personnel of international humanitarian organizations,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General of 5 December 1996 and of 5 March 1997 on the situation in Tajikistan, 3/

Supporting the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, aimed at achieving a comprehensive political settlement in the inter-Tajik talks, and those of the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the recent agreements reached between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition, 4/ in particular those signed in Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran, and Moscow, aimed at achieving national reconciliation, and urging the parties to continue their efforts to solve the conflict peacefully,

Deeply concerned at the impact of the conflict on the humanitarian situation and on the social and economic infrastructure of Tajikistan, and aware that the sharp decline in the provision of social, health and education services, lack of heating fuel for hospitals, schools and homes and the sharp drop in the real income of most families have made it increasingly difficult for large sections of the population in Tajikistan to meet their basic needs,

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1/ S/PRST/1997/6.

2/ S/PRST/1997/13.

3/ S/1996/1010 and S/1997/198.

4/ S/1996/1070, annexes; S/1997/56, annexes; and S/1997/169, annexes.

Deploring the deterioration in the security situation, which necessitated the suspension of United Nations humanitarian activities in Tajikistan and has prevented the Organization from implementing fully the measures it had undertaken to ensure the coherent delivery of humanitarian assistance, in particular through the strengthening of coordination structures in Tajikistan,

Stressing the importance of ensuring the voluntary return, in safety and dignity, of all refugees and internally displaced persons to their places of permanent residence and of reintegrating them into the social and economic life of the country,

Deeply concerned about the danger posed by landmines in Tajikistan,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and achieving national reconciliation in Tajikistan and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy,

Affirming the urgent need to assist Tajikistan in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

Expressing its appreciation to the States, United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan,

1. Encourages the efforts aimed at achieving national reconciliation in Tajikistan, and calls upon the parties to comply fully with all obligations they have assumed towards this goal, in particular to respect the ceasefire agreement;

2. Welcomes with appreciation the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country;

3. Encourages Member States and others concerned to respond further both promptly and generously to the consolidated inter-agency donor alert on urgent humanitarian needs for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 May 1997 launched by the Secretary-General;

4. Encourages States to contribute to the voluntary fund established by the Secretary-General in accordance with Security Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 december 1994 in support of the implementation of the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, signed at Tehran on 17 September 1994, [5]

5. Condemns terrorist acts and other acts of violence in Tajikistan, and calls upon the parties to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and other international humanitarian personnel;

6. Encourages the parties to cooperate in order to reduce the threat from the indiscriminate use of landmines to the civil population of Tajikistan and to those providing humanitarian assistance, and welcomes in this regard the proposal to create a mine action centre in Tajikistan;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

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[5] S/1994/1102, annex 1.

8. Decides to consider at its fifty-second session the question of the situation of Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

51/196 B The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti

Date: 31 July 1997	Meeting: 105
Adopted without a vote	Draft: A/51/L.77/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti",

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, as well as those adopted on the question by the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted on the question by the Organization of American States,

Reaffirming that the goal of the international community remains the full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the promotion of social and economic development in Haiti,

Paying tribute to the Haitian people in their ongoing quest for a strong and lasting democracy, justice and economic prosperity,

Reaffirming its support to the people and the Government of Haiti and for their efforts to advance democracy, respect for human rights and the reconstruction of Haiti,

Taking note of the postponement of the second round of partial elections, and expressing the hope that the Haitian people will shortly be able to express themselves once again through free, honest and transparent elections,

Strongly supporting the continuing leadership of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States in the efforts of the international community in furthering political progress in Haiti,

Welcoming the continued efforts by States to provide humanitarian assistance and technical cooperation to the people of Haiti,

Supporting fully the contribution of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, its Executive Director and staff, and of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti in the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the full observance of human rights and the full restoration of the constitutional democracy of Haiti, and welcoming the cooperation of the International Civilian Mission with the United Nations Support Mission and others participating in institution-building, including police training activities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 26 June 1997 on the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti, 6/ and the request of 30 November 1996 from the President of the Republic of Haiti to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, 7/

6/ A/51/935.

7/ A/51/703, annex.

Welcoming the continuing improvement in the situation of human rights in Haiti, and noting the policy statements by Haitian authorities that the Government of Haiti remains committed to upholding human rights and improving accountability,

1. Welcomes the recommendation of the Secretary-General contained in his report to renew the mandate of the joint participation of the United Nations with the Organization of American States in the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, with the tasks of:

(a) Providing technical assistance at the request of the Government of Haiti in the field of institution-building, such as the training of the police and support for efforts towards judicial reform and the establishment of an impartial judiciary;

(b) Supporting the development of a programme for the promotion and protection of human rights, in order to further the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the consolidation of long-term constitutional democracy in Haiti and to contribute to the strengthening of democratic institutions;

(c) Verifying full observance by Haiti of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. Decides to authorize, on the basis of the above recommendation, the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations component of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti until 31 December 1997, according to the terms of reference and modalities under which the Mission is operating;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to develop appropriate means to identify resources for the Mission within the limits of the approved budget for the current biennium;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit, no later than 30 November 1997, a report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution and the ways in which the international community can continue to assist with the tasks set out in paragraph 1 above;

5. Reaffirms once again the commitment of the international community to continue its technical, economic and financial cooperation with Haiti in support of its economic and social development efforts and in order to strengthen Haitian institutions responsible for dispensing justice and guaranteeing democracy, respect for human rights, political stability and economic development;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system in providing humanitarian aid and contributing to the development of Haiti;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti".

51/198 United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

Resolution	Date	Vote	Meeting	Draft
B	27 March 1997	Adopted without a vote	94	A/51/L.69 and Add.1
C	31 July 1997	Adopted without a vote	105	A/51/L.75 and Add.1

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/15 of 20 November 1990, 46/109 A of 17 December 1991, 47/118 of 18 December 1992, 48/161 of 20 December 1993 and 48/267 of 19 September 1994, in which it decided to establish the Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the

Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala, and its resolutions 49/137 of 19 December 1994, 49/236 A of 31 March 1995, 49/236 B of 14 September 1995, 50/220 of 3 April 1996 and, in particular, 51/198 of 17 December 1996, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the Mission for a further period of three months, that is, until 31 March 1997, and requested the Secretary-General to submit recommendations on how the structure and staffing of the Mission should be redesigned to enable it to fulfil its new responsibilities after the signing at Guatemala City on 29 December 1996 by the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca of the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace, 8/

Recalling also the Framework Agreement for the Resumption of the Negotiating Process between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca of 10 January 1994, 9/ and all subsequent agreements, in which the parties agreed to request the United Nations to carry out international verification of the peace accords,

Welcoming the agreements between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca signed at Guatemala City on 29 December 1996, 10/ which, together with the overall package of peace accords signed previously at Madrid, Mexico City, Oslo and Stockholm, put a definitive end to the internal Guatemalan conflict and will foster national reconciliation and economic development,

Encouraged by progress made in the verification of the ceasefire, the separation of forces and the disarmament and demobilization of combatants of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca by the group of military observers whose attachment to the Mission was authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 1094 (1997) of 20 January 1997,

Encouraged also by the establishment of the Follow-Up Commission, which will oversee implementation of the agreements, and by the preparatory work carried out with a view to the establishment of the historical clarification commission,

Taking into account the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the sixth report of the Director of the Mission, 11/

Acknowledging the support given to the Mission by the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria National Guatemalteca,

Acknowledging also the efforts of the Secretary-General, the Group of Friends of the Guatemala peace process, 12/ the United Nations system and other international agencies throughout the process that culminated in the signing of the peace agreement,

Recalling the request of the parties that the United Nations verify all the agreements signed by them as reflected in the Framework Agreement of 10 January 1994 13/ and stressed in the Agreement on the Implementation, Compliance and Verification Timetable for the Peace Agreements, 14/

8/ A/51/796-S/1997/114, annex II.

9/ A/49/61-S/1994/53, annex.

10/ A/51/796-S/1997/114, annexes I and II.

11/ A/51/790.

12/ The Group of Friends is composed of Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, the United States of America and Venezuela.

13/ A/49/61-S/1994/53, annex.

14/ A/51/796-S/1997/114, annex I.

Recalling also the letter of the Secretary-General to the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council, 15/ proposing that a new mission, to be called the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala, subsume the functions currently performed by the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala,

Having considered the recommendations of the Secretary-General regarding the restructuring of the Mission to enable it to fulfil its new responsibilities and the renewal of its mandate, as contained in his report on the Mission, 16/

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala; 17/

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the sixth report of the Director of the Mission; 18/

3. *Commends* the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca for their sustained efforts in search of peace, which culminated with the signing of the historic agreement of 29 December 1996;

4. *Calls upon* both parties to continue to implement fully the commitments they entered into in the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights 19/ and those in the other agreements that have come into effect with the signing of the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace; 20/

5. *Decides* to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala (MINUGUA), to be known henceforth as the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala, for a further period of one year, that is, until 31 March 1988, to carry out international verification of the peace accords in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to develop appropriate means to identify resources for the Mission within the limits of the approved budget for the current biennium;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to it with his recommendations on the structure and staffing of the Mission after 31 March 1998;

8. *Invites* the international community to intensify its support for peace-related activities in Guatemala, through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Guatemala Peace Process established by the Secretary-General and through other mechanisms provided for by the international donor community;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly fully informed on the implementation of the present resolution.

15/ A/51/794-S/1997/106.

16/ A/51/828.

17/ *Ibid*.

18/ A/51/790, annex.

19/ A/51/695-S/1996/998.

20/ A/51/796-S/1997/114, annex II.

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/198 B of 27 March 1997, in which it extended the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala until 31 March 1998,

Welcoming the timely implementation of the Agreement on the Definitive Ceasefire, 21/

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General relating to verification of the peace accords,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala; 22/

2. Takes note with satisfaction of the progress made so far in the implementation of the peace accords;

3. Commends the Government of Guatemala, the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca and the Guatemalan people, institutions and organizations for their participation in the implementation process;

4. Encourages the two parties and all sectors of the Guatemalan society to join efforts for the implementation of all steps provided for in the second phase of the Agreement on the Implementation Compliance and Verification Timetable for the Peace Agreements, 23/ until 31 December 1997;

5. Reiterates its full support for the comprehensive agenda of democratic, equitable and multicultural development included in the accords, and invites the international community to continue cooperating in the establishment of most favourable conditions for its realization;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly fully informed on the implementation process in the light of the present resolution.

51/199 B El Salvador

Date: 31 July 1997	Meeting: 105
Adopted without a vote	Draft: A/51/L.76 and Add.1

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the situation in Central America and, in particular resolution 51/199 of 17 December 1996, by which it, inter alia, decided that the responsibilities of verification and good offices entrusted to the United Nations should be executed through periodic visits to El Salvador by a high-level envoy from New York, who would keep the Secretary-General informed on a regular basis, and that the envoy would be assisted for a period of six months in the discharge of those responsibilities by a small support unit in El Salvador, working with the administrative support of the United Nations Development Programme,

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21/ S/1996/1045, annex.

22/ A/51/936.

23/ A/51/796-S/1997/114, annex I.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 1 July 1997 containing an assessment of the peace process in El Salvador, 24/

Paying tribute to the efforts that have been made by the people of El Salvador to achieve the general objectives of the peace process established by the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Marti para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) as contained in the Geneva Agreement of 4 April 1990, 25/

Paying tribute also to the contribution made by the various United Nations mission in El Salvador - the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador, the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador and the United Nations Office of Verification in El Salvador; as well as the support unit and the envoy of the Secretary-General to the implementation of the peace accords in El Salvador,

Welcoming the progress made in the past five years towards a society characterized by democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights,

Acknowledging with gratitude the contributions of Member States that have made available personnel and voluntary funding to the support unit for the envoy of the Secretary-General in El Salvador and to technical assistance projects in support of the peace process,

1. Welcomes the continuing commitment of the Government and people of El Salvador to the consolidation of the peace process;

2. Urges all concerned to continue working together to complete the implementation of the peace process in El Salvador without delay;

3. Decides that, taking into account the recommendation contained in the report of the Secretary-General, the support unit for his envoy in El Salvador should be closed down as a separate entity, as it has concluded its mandate;

4. Welcomes the proposal of the Secretary-General to assign two international Professionals and two local consultants as a unit under the administrative structure of the United Nations Development Programme, for a period of six months, funded by the available balance under the Trust Fund for the Mission of the United Nations in El Salvador, to follow up on the outstanding elements of the peace accords, while the verification and good offices responsibilities of the Organization would continue to be carried out from New York;

5. Emphasizes the importance of the continued cooperation of the various agencies, offices and programmes of the United Nations system active in El Salvador in the consolidation of the peace process;

6. Calls upon Member States and international institutions to maintain their political, technical and financial support to the efforts of the Government and people of El Salvador to promote peace, freedom, democracy and development in that country;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to keep it informed of further developments in the implementation of the peace process in El Salvador, as he deems appropriate.

24/ A/51/917.

25/ A/45/706-S/21931, annex I.

51/223 Israeli settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, in particular in occupied East Jerusalem

Date: 13 March 1997 Meeting: 93
Vote: 130-2-2 (recorded) Draft: A/51/L.68 and Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the letters dated 21, 25 and 27 February 1997 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States (A/51/805-S/1997/149, A/51/808-S/1997/157 and S/1997/165),

Expressing deep concern at the decision of the Government of Israel to initiate new settlement activities in the Jebel Abu Ghneim area in East Jerusalem,

Expressing concern about other recent measures that encourage or facilitate new settlement activities,

Stressing that such settlements are illegal and a major obstacle to peace,

Recalling its resolutions on Jerusalem and other relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Confirming that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel which purport to alter the status of Jerusalem, including expropriation of land and properties thereon, are invalid and cannot change that status,

Reaffirming its support for the Middle East Peace Process and all its achievements, including the recent Agreement on Hebron,

Concerned about the difficulties facing the Middle East Peace Process, including the impact these have on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, and urging the parties to fulfiltheir obligations, including under the agreements already reached,

Having discussed the situation at its 91st, 92nd and 93rd plenary meetings on 12 and 13 March 1997,

1. Calls upon the Israeli authorities to refrain from all actions or measures, including settlement activities, which alter the facts on the ground, pre-empting the final status negotiations, and have negative implications for the Middle East Peace Process;

2. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to abide scrupulously by its legal obligations and responsibilities under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949, which is applicable to all the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

3. Calls upon all parties to continue, in the interests of peace and security, their negotiations within the Middle East Peace Process on its agreed basis and the timely implementation of the agreements reached;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Government of Israel the provisions of this resolution.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 51/223:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua-Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comorros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's

Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Solomon Island, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States.

Abstaining: Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands.

Absent: Albania, Barbados, Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Mali, Monaco, Niger, Palau, Panama, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis*, Saint Lucia*, Turkmenistan, Zaire, Zambia.

* Later advised the Secretariat it had intended to vote in favour.

51/229 Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses

Date: 21 May 1997
Vote: 103-3-27 (recorded)

Meeting: 99
Draft: A/51/L.72 and Add 1
Report: A/51/869, para.10

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind Article 13, paragraph 1 (a) of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 2669 (XXV) of 8 December 1970, by which it recommended the International Law Commission to take up the study of the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses with a view to its progressive development and codification,

Recalling also that the International Law Commission submitted a final set of draft articles on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses in chapter III of its report on the work of its forty-sixth session, 26/

Recalling further its resolutions 49/52 of 9 December 1994 and 51/206 of 17 December 1996, by which it decided that the Sixth Committee would convene as a working group of the whole, open to States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies, to elaborate a framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses, and that on completion of its mandate the working group of the whole should report directly to the General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Sixth Committee convening as the Working Group of the Whole 27/ and expressing its gratitude for the work done,

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26/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/49/10).

27/ A/51/869.

1. Expresses its deep appreciation to the International Law Commission for its valuable work on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses and to the successive special rapporteurs for their contribution to that work;

2. Adopts the Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, contained in paragraph 10 of the report of the Working Group of the Whole,[28] and requests the Secretary-General as depositary to open it for signature;

3. Invites States and regional economic integration organizations to become parties to the Convention.

The Working Group of the Whole recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft Convention:

Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses

The Parties to the present Convention,

Conscious of the importance of international watercourses and the non-navigational uses thereof in many regions of the world,

Having in mind Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations, which provides that the General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Considering that successful codification and progressive development of rules of international law regarding non-navigational uses of international watercourses would assist in promoting and implementing the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking into account the problems affecting many international watercourses resulting from, among other things, increasing demands and pollution,

Expressing the conviction that a framework convention will ensure the utilization, development, conservation, management and protection of international watercourses and the promotion of the optimal and sustainable utilization thereof for present and future generations,

Affirming the importance of international cooperation and good-neighbourliness in this field,

Aware of the special situation and needs of developing countries,

Recalling the principles and recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of 1992 in the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21,

Recalling also the existing bilateral and multilateral agreements regarding the non-navigational uses of international watercourses,

Mindful of the valuable contribution of international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, to the codification and progressive development of international law in this field,

Appreciative of the work carried out by the International Law Commission on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses,

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[28] A/51/869.

Bearing in mind United Nations General Assembly resolution 49/52 of 9 December 1994,

Have agreed as follows:

PART I. INTRODUCTION

Article 1

Scope of the present Convention

1. The present Convention applies to uses of international watercourses and of their waters for purposes other than navigation and to measures of protection, preservation and management related to the uses of those watercourses and their waters.

2. The uses of international watercourses for navigation is not within the scope of the present Convention except insofar as other uses affect navigation or are affected by navigation.

Article 2

Use of terms

For the purposes of the present Convention:

(a) "Watercourse" means a system of surface waters and groundwaters constituting by virtue of their physical relationship a unitary whole and normally flowing into a common terminus;

(b) "International watercourse" means a watercourse, parts of which are situated in different States;

(c) "Watercourse State" means a State Party to the present Convention in whose territory part of an international watercourse is situated, or a Party that is a regional economic integration organization, in the territory of one or more of whose Member States part of an international watercourse is situated;

(d) "Regional economic integration organization" means an organization constituted by sovereign States of a given region, to which its member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by this Convention and which has been duly authorized in accordance with its internal procedures, to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to it.

Article 3

Watercourse agreements

1. In the absence of an agreement to the contrary, nothing in the present Convention shall affect the rights or obligations of a watercourse State arising from agreements in force for it on the date on which it became a party to the present Convention.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, parties to agreements referred to in paragraph 1 may, where necessary, consider harmonizing such agreements with the basic principles of the present Convention.

3. Watercourse States may enter into one or more agreements, hereinafter referred to as "watercourse agreements", which apply and adjust the provisions of the present Convention to the characteristics and uses of a particular international watercourse or part thereof.

4. Where a watercourse agreement is concluded between two or more watercourse States, it shall define the waters to which it applies. Such an agreement may be entered into with respect to an entire international watercourse or any part thereof or a particular project, programme or use except insofar as the agreement adversely affects, to a significant extent, the use by one or more other watercourse States of the waters of the watercourse, without their express consent.

5. Where a watercourse State considers that adjustment and application of the provisions of the present Convention is required because of the characteristics and uses of a particular international watercourse, watercourse States shall consult with a view to negotiating in good faith for the purpose of concluding a watercourse agreement or agreements.

6. Where some but not all watercourse States to a particular international watercourse are parties to an agreement, nothing in such agreement shall affect the rights or obligations under the present Convention of watercourse States that are not parties to such an agreement.

Article 4

Parties to watercourse agreements

1. Every watercourse State is entitled to participate in the negotiation of and to become a party to any watercourse agreement that applies to the entire international watercourse, as well as to participate in any relevant consultations.

2. A watercourse State whose use of an international watercourse may be affected to a significant extent by the implementation of a proposed watercourse agreement that applies only to a part of the watercourse or to a particular project, programme or use is entitled to participate in consultations on such an agreement and, where appropriate, in the negotiation thereof in good faith with a view to becoming a party thereto, to the extent that its use is thereby affected.

PART II. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 5

Equitable and reasonable utilization and participation

1. Watercourse States shall in their respective territories utilize an international watercourse in an equitable and reasonable manner. In particular, an international watercourse shall be used and developed by watercourse States with a view to attaining optimal and sustainable utilization thereof and benefits therefrom, taking into account the interests of the watercourse States concerned, consistent with adequate protection of the watercourse.

2. Watercourse States shall participate in the use, development and protection of an international watercourse in an equitable and reasonable manner. Such participation includes both the right to utilize the watercourse and the duty to cooperate in the protection and development thereof, as provided in the present Convention.

Article 6

Factors relevant to equitable and reasonable utilization

1. Utilization of an international watercourse in an equitable and reasonable manner within the meaning of article 5 requires taking into account all relevant factors and circumstances, including:

(a) Geographic, hydrographic, hydrological, climatic, ecological and other factors of a natural character;

(b) The social and economic needs of the watercourse States concerned;

(c) The population dependent on the watercourse in each watercourse State;

(d) The effects of the use or uses of the watercourses in one watercourse State on other watercourse States;

(e) Existing and potential uses of the watercourse;

(f) Conservation, protection, development and economy of use of the water resources of the watercourse and the costs of measures taken to that effect;

(g) The availability of alternatives, of comparable value, to a particular planned or existing use.

2. In the application of article 5 or paragraph 1 of this article, watercourse States concerned shall, when the need arises, enter into consultations in a spirit of cooperation.

3. The weight to be given to each factor is to be determined by its importance in comparison with that of other relevant factors. In determining what is a reasonable and equitable use, all relevant factors are to be considered together and a conclusion reached on the basis of the whole.

Article 7

Obligation not to cause significant harm

1. Watercourse States shall, in utilizing an international watercourse in their territories take all appropriate measures to prevent the causing of significant harm to other watercourse States.

2. Where significant harm nevertheless is caused to another watercourse State, the States whose use causes such harm shall, in the absence of agreement to such use, take all appropriate measures, having due regard for the provisions of articles 5 and 6, in consultation with the affected State, to eliminate or mitigate such harm and, where appropriate, to discuss the question of compensation.

Article 8

General obligation to cooperate

1. Watercourse States shall cooperate on the basis of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, mutual benefit and good faith in order to attain optimal utilization and adequate protection of an international watercourse.

2. In determining the manner of such cooperation, watercourse States may consider the establishment of joint mechanisms or commissions, as deemed necessary by them, to facilitate cooperation on relevant measures and procedures in the light of experience gained through cooperation in existing joint mechanisms and commissions in various regions.

Article 9

Regular exchange of data and information

1. Pursuant to article 8, watercourse States shall on a regular basis exchange readily available data and information on the condition of the watercourse, in particular that of a hydrological, meteorological, hydrogeological and ecological nature and related to the water quality as well as related forecasts.

2. If a watercourse State is requested by another watercourse State to provide data or information that is not readily available, it shall employ its best efforts to comply with the request but may condition its compliance upon payment by the requesting State of the reasonable costs of collecting and, where appropriate, processing such data or information.

3. Watercourse States shall employ their best efforts to collect and, where appropriate, to process data and information in a manner which facilitates its utilization by the other watercourse States to which it is communicated.

Article 10

Relationship between different kinds of uses

1. In the absence of agreement or custom to the contrary, no use of an international watercourse enjoys inherent priority over other uses.

2. In the event of a conflict between uses of an international watercourse, it shall be resolved with reference to articles 5 to 7, with special regard being given to the requirements of vital human needs.

PART III. PLANNED MEASURES

Article 11

Information concerning planned measures

Watercourse States shall exchange information and consult each other and, if necessary, negotiate on the possible effects of planned measures on the condition of an international watercourse.

Article 12

Notification concerning planned measures with possible adverse effects

Before a watercourse State implements or permits the implementation of planned measures which may have a significant adverse effect upon other watercourse States, it shall provide those States with timely notification thereof. Such notification shall be accompanied by available technical data and information, including the results of any environmental impact assessment, in order to enable the notified States to evaluate the possible effects of the planned measures.

Article 13

Period for reply to notification

Unless otherwise agreed:

(a) A watercourse State providing a notification under article 12 shall allow the notified States a period of six months within which to study and evaluate the possible effects of the planned measures and to communicate the findings to it;

(b) This period shall, at the request of a notified State for which the evaluation of the planned measures poses special difficulty, be extended for a period of six months.

Article 14

Obligations of the notifying State during the period for reply

During the period referred to in article 13, the notifying State:

(a) Shall cooperate with the notified States by providing them, on request, with any additional data and information that is available and necessary for an accurate evaluation; and

(b) Shall not implement or permit the implementation of the planned measures without the consent of the notified States.

Article 15

Reply to notification

The notified States shall communicate their findings to the notifying State as early as possible within the period applicable pursuant to article 13. If a notified State finds that implementation of the planned measures would be inconsistent with the provisions of articles 5 or 7, it shall attach to its finding a documented explanation setting forth the reasons for the finding.

Article 16

Absence of reply to notification

1. If, within the period applicable pursuant to article 13, the notifying State receives no communication under article 15, it may, subject to its obligations under articles 5 and 7, proceed with the implementation of the planned measures, in accordance with the notification and any other data and information provided to the notified States.

2. Any claim to compensation by a notified State which has failed to reply within the period applicable pursuant to article 13 may be offset by the costs incurred by the notifying State for action undertaken after the expiration of the time for a reply which would not have been undertaken if the notified State had objected within that period.

Article 17

Consultations and negotiations concerning planned measures

1. If a communication is made under article 15 that implementation of the planned measures would be inconsistent with the provisions of articles 5 or 7, the notifying State and the State making the communication shall enter into consultations and, if necessary, negotiations with a view to arriving at an equitable resolution of the situation.

2. The consultations and negotiations shall be conducted on the basis that each State must in good faith pay reasonable regard to the rights and legitimate interests of the other State.

3. During the course of the consultations and negotiations, the notifying State shall, if so requested by the notified State at the time it makes the communication, refrain from implementing or permitting the implementation of the planned measures for a period of six months unless otherwise agreed.

Article 18

Procedures in the absence of notification

1. If a watercourse State has reasonable grounds to believe that another watercourse State is planning measures that may have a significant adverse effect upon it, the former State may request the latter to apply the provisions of article 12. The request shall be accompanied by a documented explanation setting forth its grounds.

2. In the event that the State planning the measures nevertheless finds that it is not under an obligation to provide a notification under article 12, it shall so inform the other State, providing a documented explanation setting forth the reasons for such finding. If this finding does not satisfy the other State, the two States shall, at the request of that other State, promptly enter into consultations and negotiations in the manner indicated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of article 17.

3. During the course of the consultations and negotiations, the State planning the measures shall, if so requested by the other State at the time it requests the initiation of consultations and negotiations, refrain from implementing or permitting the implementation of those measures for a period of six months unless otherwise agreed.

Article 19

Urgent implementation of planned measures

1. In the event that the implementation of planned measures is of the utmost urgency in order to protect public health, public safety or other equally important interests, the State planning the measures may, subject to articles 5 and 7, immediately proceed to implementation, notwithstanding the provisions of article 14 and paragraph 3 of article 17.

2. In such case, a formal declaration of the urgency of the measures shall be communicated without delay to the other watercourse States referred to in article 12 together with the relevant data and information.

3. The State planning the measures shall, at the request of any of the States referred to in paragraph 2, promptly enter into consultations and negotiations with it in the manner indicated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of article 17.

PART IV. PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

Article 20

Protection and preservation of ecosystems

Watercourse States shall, individually and, where appropriate, jointly, protect and preserve the ecosystems of international watercourses.

Article 21

Prevention, reduction and control of pollution

1. For the purpose of this article, "pollution of an international watercourse" means any detrimental alteration in the composition or quality of the waters of an international watercourse which results directly or indirectly from human conduct.

2. Watercourse States shall, individually and, where appropriate, jointly, prevent, reduce and control the pollution of an international watercourse that may cause significant harm to other watercourse States or to their environment, including harm to human health or safety, to the use of the waters for any beneficial purpose or to the living resources of the watercourse. Watercourse States shall take steps to harmonize their policies in this connection.

3. Watercourse States shall, at the request of any of them, consult with a view to arriving at mutually agreeable measures and methods to prevent, reduce and control pollution of an international watercourse, such as:

(a) Setting joint water quality objectives and criteria;

(b) Establishing techniques and practices to address pollution from point and non-point sources;

(c) Establishing lists of substances the introduction of which into the waters of an international watercourse is to be prohibited, limited, investigated or monitored.

Article 22

Introduction of alien or new species

Watercourse States shall take all measures necessary to prevent the introduction of species, alien or new, into an international watercourse which may have effects detrimental to the ecosystem of the watercourse resulting in significant harm to other watercourse States.

Article 23

Protection and preservation of the marine environment

Watercourse States shall, individually and, where appropriate, in cooperation with other States, take all measures with respect to an international watercourse that are necessary to protect and preserve the marine environment, including estuaries, taking into account generally accepted international rules and standards.

Article 24

Management

1. Watercourse States shall, at the request of any of them, enter into consultations concerning the management of an international watercourse, which may include the establishment of a joint management mechanism.

2. For the purposes of this article, "management" refers, in particular, to:

(a) Planning the sustainable development of an international watercourse and providing for the implementation of any plans adopted; and

(b) Otherwise promoting the rational and optimal utilization, protection and control of the watercourse.

Article 25

Regulation

1. Watercourse States shall cooperate, where appropriate, to respond to needs or opportunities for regulation of the flow of the waters of an international watercourse.

2. Unless otherwise agreed, watercourse States shall participate on an equitable basis in the construction and maintenance or defrayal of the costs of such regulation works as they may have agreed to undertake.

3. For the purposes of this article, "regulation" means the use of hydraulic works or any other continuing measure to alter, vary or otherwise control the flow of the waters of an international watercourse.

Article 26

Installations

1. Watercourse States shall, within their respective territories, employ their best efforts to maintain and protect installations, facilities and other works related to an international watercourse.

2. Watercourse States shall, at the request of any of them which has reasonable grounds to believe that it may suffer significant adverse effects, enter into consultations with regard to:

(a) The safe operation and maintenance of installations, facilities or other works related to an international watercourse; and

(b) The protection of installations, facilities or other works from wilful or negligent acts or the forces of nature.

PART V. HARMFUL CONDITIONS AND EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Article 27

Prevention and mitigation of harmful conditions

Watercourse States shall, individually and, where appropriate, jointly, take all appropriate measures to prevent or mitigate conditions related to an international watercourse that may be harmful to other watercourse States, whether resulting from natural causes or human conduct, such as flood or ice conditions, water-borne diseases, siltation, erosion, salt-water intrusion, drought or desertification.

Article 28

Emergency situations

1. For the purposes of this article, "emergency" means a situation that causes, or poses an imminent threat of causing, serious harm to watercourse States or other States and that results suddenly from natural causes, such as floods, the breaking up of ice, landslides or earthquakes, or from human conduct, such as industrial accidents.

2. A watercourse State shall, without delay and by the most expeditious means available, notify other potentially affected States and competent international organizations of any emergency originating within its territory.

3. A watercourse State within whose territory an emergency originates shall, in cooperation with potentially affected States and, where appropriate, competent international organizations, immediately take all practicable measures necessitated by the circumstances to prevent, mitigate and eliminate harmful effects of the emergency.

4. When necessary, watercourse States shall jointly develop contingency plans for responding to emergencies, in cooperation, where appropriate, with other potentially affected States and competent international organizations.

PART VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 29

International watercourses and installations in time of armed conflict

International watercourses and related installations, facilities and other works shall enjoy the protection accorded by the principles and rules of international law applicable in international and non-international armed conflict and shall not be used in violation of those principles and rules.

Article 30

Indirect procedures

In cases where there are serious obstacles to direct contacts between watercourse States, the States concerned shall fulfil their obligations of cooperation provided for in the present Convention, including exchange of data and information, notification, communication, consultations and negotiations, through any indirect procedure accepted by them.

Article 31

Data and information vital to national defence or security

Nothing in the present Convention obliges a watercourse State to provide data or information vital to its national defence or security. Nevertheless, that State shall cooperate in good faith with the other watercourse States with a view to providing as much information as possible under the circumstances.

Article 32

Non-discrimination

Unless the watercourse States concerned have agreed otherwise for the protection of the interests of persons, natural or juridical, who have suffered or are under a serious threat of suffering significant transboundary harm as a result of activities related to an international watercourse, a watercourse State shall not discriminate on the basis of nationality or residence or place where the injury occurred, in granting to such persons, in accordance with its legal system, access to judicial or other procedures, or a right to claim compensation or other relief in respect of significant harm caused by such activities carried on in its territory.

Article 33

Settlement of disputes

1. In the event of a dispute between two or more Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention, the Parties concerned shall, in the absence of an applicable agreement between them, seek a settlement of the dispute by peaceful means in accordance with the following provisions.

2. If the Parties concerned cannot reach agreement by negotiation requested by one of them, they may jointly seek the good offices of, or request mediation or conciliation by, a third party, or make use, as appropriate, of any joint watercourse institutions that may have been established by them or agree to submit the dispute to arbitration or to the International Court of Justice.

3. Subject to the operation of paragraph 10, if after six months from the time of the request for negotiations referred to in paragraph 2, the Parties concerned have not been able to settle their dispute through negotiation or any other means referred to in paragraph 2, the dispute shall be submitted, at the request of any of the parties to the dispute, to impartial fact-finding in accordance with paragraphs 4 to 9, unless the Parties otherwise agree.

4. A Fact-finding Commission shall be established, composed of one member nominated by each Party concerned and in addition a member not having the nationality of any of the Parties concerned chosen by the nominated members who shall serve as Chairman.

5. If the members nominated by the Parties are unable to agree on a Chairman within three months of the request for the establishment of the Commission, any Party concerned may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint the Chairman who shall not have the nationality of any of the parties to the dispute or of any riparian State of the watercourse concerned. If one of the Parties fails to nominate a member within three months of the initial request pursuant to paragraph 3, any other Party concerned may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint a person who shall not have the nationality of any of the parties to the dispute or of any riparian State of the watercourse concerned. The person so appointed shall constitute a single-member Commission.

6. The Commission shall determine its own procedure.

7. The Parties concerned have the obligation to provide the Commission with such information as it may require and, on request, to permit the Commission to have access to their respective territory and to inspect any facilities, plant, equipment, construction or natural feature relevant for the purpose of its inquiry.

8. The Commission shall adopt its report by a majority vote, unless it is a single-member Commission, and shall submit that report to the Parties concerned setting forth its findings and the reasons therefor and such recommendations as it deems appropriate for an equitable solution of the dispute, which the Parties concerned shall consider in good faith.

9. The expenses of the Commission shall be borne equally by the Parties concerned.

10. When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the present Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party which is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the Depositary that, in respect of any dispute not resolved in accordance with paragraph 2, it recognizes as compulsory ipso facto and without special agreement in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation:

(a) Submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice; and/or

(b) Arbitration by an arbitral tribunal established and operating, unless the parties to the dispute otherwise agreed, in accordance with the procedure laid down in the annex to the present Convention.

A Party which is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration in accordance with subparagraph (b).

PART VII. FINAL CLAUSES

Article 34

Signature

The present Convention shall be open for signature by all States and by regional economic integration organizations from ... until ... at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Article 35

Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. The present Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States and by regional economic integration organizations. The instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. Any regional economic integration organization which becomes a Party to this Convention without any of its member States being a Party shall be bound by all the obligations under the Convention. In the case of such organizations, one or more of whose member States is a Party to this Convention, the organization and its member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of their obligations under the Convention. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under the Convention concurrently.

3. In their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the regional economic integration organizations shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by the Convention. These organizations shall also inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence.

Article 36

Entry into force

1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance,

approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

3. For the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 2, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States.

Article 37

Authentic texts

The original of the present Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Convention.

DONE at New York, this _____ day of ________ one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven.

ANNEX

ARBITRATION

Article 1

Unless the parties to the dispute otherwise agree, the arbitration pursuant to article 33 of the Convention shall take place in accordance with articles 2 to 14 of the present annex.

Article 2

The claimant party shall notify the respondent party that it is referring a dispute to arbitration pursuant to article 33 of the Convention. The notification shall state the subject matter of arbitration and include, in particular, the articles of the Convention, the interpretation or application of which are at issue. If the parties do not agree on the subject matter of the dispute, the arbitral tribunal shall determine the subject matter.

Article 3

1. In disputes between two parties, the arbitral tribunal shall consist of three members. Each of the parties to the dispute shall appoint an arbitrator and the two arbitrators so appointed shall designate by common agreement the third arbitrator, who shall be the Chairman of the tribunal. The latter shall not be a national of one of the parties to the dispute or of any riparian State of the watercourse concerned, nor have his or her usual place of residence in the territory of one of these parties or such riparian State, nor have dealt with the case in any other capacity.

2. In disputes between more than two parties, parties in the same interest shall appoint one arbitrator jointly by agreement.

3. Any vacancy shall be filled in the manner prescribed for the initial appointment.

Article 4

1. If the Chairman of the arbitral tribunal has not been designated within two months of the appointment of the second arbitrator, the President of the International Court of Justice shall, at the request of a party, designate the Chairman within a further two-month period.

2. If one of the parties to the dispute does not appoint an arbitrator within two months of receipt of the request, the other party may inform the President of the International Court of Justice, who shall make the designation within a further two-month period.

Article 5

The arbitral tribunal shall render its decisions in accordance with the provisions of this Convention and international law.

Article 6

Unless the parties to the dispute otherwise agree, the arbitral tribunal shall determine its own rules of procedure.

Article 7

The arbitral tribunal may, at the request of one of the Parties, recommend essential interim measures of protection.

Article 8

1. The parties to the dispute shall facilitate the work of the arbitral tribunal and, in particular, using all means at their disposal, shall:

(a) Provide it with all relevant documents, information and facilities; and

(b) Enable it, when necessary, to call witnesses or experts and receive their evidence.

2. The parties and the arbitrators are under an obligation to protect the confidentiality of any information they receive in confidence during the proceedings of the arbitral tribunal.

Article 9

Unless the arbitral tribunal determines otherwise because of the particular circumstances of the case, the costs of the tribunal shall be borne by the parties to the dispute in equal shares. The tribunal shall keep a record of all its costs, and shall furnish a final statement thereof to the parties.

Article 10

Any Party that has an interest of a legal nature in the subject matter of the dispute which may be affected by the decision in the case, may intervene in the proceedings with the consent of the tribunal.

Article 11

The tribunal may hear and determine counterclaims arising directly out of the subject matter of the dispute.

Article 12

Decisions both on procedure and substance of the arbitral tribunal shall be taken by a majority vote of its members.

Article 13

If one of the parties to the dispute does not appear before the arbitral tribunal or fails to defend its case, the other party may request the tribunal to continue the proceedings and to make its award. Absence of a party or a failure of a party to defend its case shall not constitute a bar to the proceedings. Before rendering its final decision, the arbitral tribunal must satisfy itself that the claim is well founded in fact and law.

Article 14

1. The tribunal shall render its final decision within five months of the date on which it is fully constituted unless it finds it necessary to extend the time limit for a period which should not exceed five more months.

2. The final decision of the arbitral tribunal shall be confined to the subject matter of the dispute and shall state the reasons on which it is based. It shall contain the names of the members who have participated and the date of the final decision. Any member of the tribunal may attach a separate or dissenting opinion to the final decision.

3. The award shall be binding on the parties to the dispute. It shall be without appeal unless the parties to the dispute have agreed in advance to an appellate procedure.

4. Any controversy which may arise between the parties to the dispute as regards the interpretation or manner of implementation of the final decision may be submitted by either party for decision to the arbitral tribunal which rendered it.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 51/229:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Federated States of Micronesia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao Peoples Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against: Burundi, China, Turkey.

Abstaining: Andorra, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belgium*, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Israel, Mali, Monaco, Mongolia, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Spain, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan.

Absent: Afghanistan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Cape Verde, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji*, Guinea, Lebanon, Mauritania, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria*, Palau, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

* Later advised the Secretariat it had intended to vote in favour.

51/230 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Date: 22 May 1997	Meeting: 100
Adopted without a vote	Draft: A/51/L.73 and Add.1

The General Assembly,

Noting that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (Paris, 13 January 1993) entered into force on 29 April 1997, and whereby the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons was established,

Recognizing the need to establish an appropriate relationship between the United Nations and the organization,

Considering it essential to the prompt and effective functioning of the organization that its inspectors be able to use the United Nations laissez-passer as an official travel document,

1. Invites the Secretary-General to take steps to conclude with the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons an agreement between the United Nations and the organization to regulate the relationship between the two organizations, to be applied provisionally upon signature, pending the completion of procedures necessary for its entry into force;

2. Authorizes the Secretary-General, pending the conclusion of the relationship agreement, to enter with the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, as a matter of urgency, into a temporary arrangement, concerning the issuance of the United Nations laissez-passer to members of the organization's inspection teams, to be used as a valid travel document, where such use is recognized by States parties to the Convention.

51/238 Use of the Special Voluntary Fund and the Trust Fund

Date: 17 June 1997	Meeting: 102
Adopted without a vote	Draft: A/51/L.74

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 15 of its resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992 relating to a special voluntary fund to assist developing countries affected by desertification and drought, in particular the least developed countries, to participate fully and effectively in the negotiation process of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, Recalling also paragraph 13 of its resolution 47/188 and paragraph 8 of resolution 50/112 of 20 December 1995 relating to the possibility of using the trust fund to support the participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Committee,

Recalling also paragraph 13 (b) of its resolution 51/180 of 16 December 1996 concerning the maintenance of arrangements relating to extrabudgetary funds,

Noting with pleasure the entry into force on 26 December 1996 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

1. Decides that the head of the interim secretariat, under the authority of the Secretary-General, shall have the possibility of using the Special Voluntary Fund, as appropriate, to assist developing countries affected by desertification and drought, in particular the least developed countries, to participate fully and effectively in the first Conference of the Parties;

2. Decides further that the head of the interim secretariat, under the authority of the Secretary-General, shall have the possibility of using the Trust Fund, as appropriate, to support also the participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations in the work of the first Conference of the Parties.

51/240 Agenda for Development

Date: 20 June 1997
Adopted without a vote
Meeting: 103
Report: A/51/45

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/126 of 19 December 1994, in which it decided to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group of the Assembly to elaborate further an action-oriented, comprehensive agenda for development, which should begin its work as early as possible in 1995 under the chairmanship of the President of the Assembly,

1. Takes note of the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on an Agenda for Development;

2. Adopts the Agenda for Development, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution.

Annex

AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Development is one of the main priorities of the United Nations. Development is a multidimensional undertaking to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. Economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development.

Sustained economic growth is essential to the economic and social development of all countries, in particular developing countries. Through such growth, which should be broadly based so as to benefit all people, countries will be able to improve the standards of living of their people through the eradication of poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy, the provision of adequate shelter and secure employment for all, and the preservation of the integrity of the environment.

Democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are also an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people centred sustainable development.

The empowerment of women and their full participation on a basis of equality in all spheres of society is fundamental for development.

2. Building on the outcome of recent United Nations conferences and other relevant agreements, the Agenda for Development aims at invigorating a renewed and strengthened partnership for development, based on the imperatives of mutual benefits and genuine interdependence. It testifies to the renewed commitments of all countries to mobilize national and international efforts in pursuit of sustainable development and to revitalize and strengthen international cooperation for development. In that context, the Agenda for Development acknowledges the primacy of national policy and measures in the development process and calls for action towards a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, including, inter alia, an open, rule based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent, and predictable multilateral trading system and promotion of investment and transfer of technology and knowledge, as well as for an enhanced international cooperation in the mobilization and provision of financial resources for development from all sources, the strategy for durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries and the efficient use of available resources.

I. SETTING AND OBJECTIVES

A. Setting

1. Development, peace and security

3. Peace and development are closely interrelated and mutually supportive. Development should also be pursued in its own right. Development is indispensable to the achievement and maintenance of peace and security both within and among nations. Without development there can be neither peace nor security. There is complementarity between the processes related to the Agenda for Development and the Agenda for Peace. For peace and stability to endure, national action and effective international cooperation are required to promote a better life for all in larger freedom, a critical element of which is the eradication of poverty.

4. Development cannot be attained in the absence of peace and security or in the absence of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms. Under conditions of war, and during periods of short-term emergencies and humanitarian needs, development efforts are often neglected, diminished or abandoned. Excessive military expenditures, arms trade, investment for arms production, acquisition and stockpiling have a negative impact on development prospects. With the relaxation of international tensions the opportunity exists for reducing, as appropriate, military expenditures and investments for arms production and acquisition, consistent with national security requirements, in order to increase resources for social and economic development.

(a) Globalization, regional cooperation and interdependence: the need for a commitment for partnership

5. Profound changes have occurred, especially coupled with the end of the cold war, which question some of the traditional ways of addressing the challenge of development.

6. One such increasingly important change affecting all countries is the process of market-driven globalization, including due to rapid progress in information exchange and telecommunications. Globalization encompasses the varying degrees of increasing integration of world markets of goods, services, capital, technology, and labour. This has generated greater openness, freer movement of factors of production and created greater opportunities for international cooperation. Greatly increased trade and capital flows and technological developments open new opportunities for growth of the world economy, particularly in developing countries. Wider dissemination of ideas, cultures, and lifestyles brought about by

innovations in transportation and communications are also important manifestations of the globalization process. Globalization permits countries to share experiences and to learn from one another's achievements and difficulties, and promote a cross-fertilization of ideals, cultural values and aspirations, taking into account the recognition of cultural diversity.

7. Globalization of the world economy presents opportunities and challenges for the development process as well as risks and uncertainties. As a result of the process of globalization and growing interdependence in the economic, social and environmental fields, an increasing number of issues cannot be effectively addressed by countries individually. Therefore, international cooperation is required. Furthermore, non-State actors with a global reach, such as transnational corporations, private financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, have important roles to play in the emerging network of international cooperation.

8. Greater interdependence among States has accelerated the international transmission of macroeconomic policy decisions and therefore their effects throughout the global economy. This is particularly true for the development prospects of the developing countries, which have been particularly affected by globalization.

9. Global financial integration presents new challenges and opportunities for the international community. Sound domestic macroeconomic policies of each country in regard to promoting macroeconomic stability and growth are primary elements for determining private capital flows, and the coordination of macroeconomic policies, where appropriate, and a favourable international economic environment play an important role in reinforcing their effectiveness. The globalization of financial markets can generate new risks of instability, including interest rate and exchange rate fluctuations and volatile short-term capital flows, which require all countries to pursue sound economic policies and to recognize the external economic impact of their domestic policies. There is a need for the expansion of private capital flows and for broader access by all developing countries to these flows, and therefore the need for the international community to assist low-income countries, especially those in Africa, in their efforts to create an enabling environment necessary to attract such flows.

10. Increasing the capacity to respond to these trends requires sound domestic policies as well as a favourable international economic environment. Although new growth poles are emerging in a number of developing countries which will provide an increasing share of the stimulus to world development, it is likely that the role of the developed countries in world finance will remain preponderant for a long time. The policies they follow in their domestic affairs will, in the increasingly globalized capital markets, be of decisive importance for the rest of the world as they have a significant influence on world economic growth and, consequently, over the international economic environment.

11. Notwithstanding the importance of a favourable international economic environment, ultimately each country bears primary responsibility for its own economic and social policies for development. In order to take advantage of a rapidly integrating world economy, all countries should adopt sound and stable domestic policies, address external and internal imbalances, and encourage a continuous process of adjustment. Sound national policies are also essential for cushioning external shocks. National policies of all countries would also benefit from improved political institutions and legal systems. In this context, the international community should give strong support to the efforts of developing countries to solve their serious social and economic problems and should promote a favourable international economic environment for development.

12. Globalization and interdependence are deepening the need and creating greater opportunities for international cooperation. The problems and questions which globalization and interdependence bring in their wake, show that there clearly exists a shared, common interest among all countries in solving and answering them. International development cooperation, not only founded in solidarity, but also based on mutual interest and partnership, forms an essential part of this effort. With the waning of ideological confrontations, the rise in globalization, and the deepening of interdependence among nations, the historic opportunity has arisen for constructive dialogue among all countries, in particular among the developed and developing countries, and political mobilization for the promotion of international cooperation for

development based on genuine partnership and mutuality of interests and benefits. This Agenda for Development manifests our commitment to grasp this opportunity.

13. The deepening interdependence among countries has already led to the emergence and strengthening of regional economic groupings and arrangements. They are recognized as important catalysts for global economic growth and expansion of trade. They offer a framework for fostering and enhancing cooperation among States not only on economic policy but on other areas of common concern as well. Regional economic groupings and arrangements which are outward oriented, supportive of and complementary to the multilateral trading system are important actors in the global development process.

(b) Variety of development experiences and impact of globalization

14. Development experiences among countries reflect differences with both progress and setbacks. A number of developing countries have experienced rapid economic growth over the recent past and have become dynamic partners in the international economy. These countries, which maintain a high rate of economic growth, have increased their share in world trade and foreign direct investment, thereby expanding their role in the global economy.

15. At the same time, developing countries continue to face difficulties participating in the globalization process. Many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from the globalization process. Many of them continue to be mired in poverty, hunger and malnutrition, and economic stagnation, including slow or negative economic growth. The global changes in finance, communications and technology have largely by-passed them, despite their efforts of undertaking economic reforms, including structural adjustment programmes. The gap between the developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide. Imbalances and uncertainties continue to exist in the global economy which affect all countries but in particular the interests of the developing countries. We reiterate the need for broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making process.

16. The development spectrum ranges widely not only among countries but also within countries. The varied country situations indicate that in addition to overall measures needed for the promotion of a favourable international economic environment for development, there is a need for specific measures in particular country situations. Success will often depend on the removal of key constraints which vary greatly from country to country. Cooperation among developing countries and sharing their experiences can greatly contribute to achieving such success. It also requires that international development cooperation has to take into account the respective plans, programmes, needs, priorities and policies of developing countries. A new international partnership is required for development at the national, subregional, regional and international levels.

(c) Critical situations and special problems in developing countries:

- Critical situation in Africa
- Critical situation in the least developed countries
- Special problems in small island developing States
- Special problems in landlocked developing countries

17. The critical socio-economic situation in Africa is of priority concern. Africa is the only region where poverty is expected to continue to increase substantially. Much of the continent suffers from, inter alia, inadequate physical and institutional infrastructure, poor human resource development, lack of food security, malnutrition, hunger, widespread epidemics and diseases, and unemployment and underemployment. These conditions are further compounded by a number of conflict and disaster situations. All these diverse limitations and constraints make it difficult for Africa to fully benefit from the processes of globalization and liberalization of trade and to integrate fully in the world economy. Increased mobilization of domestic and external resources for development, as well as their more effective use, are critical for the success of the

economic and political reforms undertaken by African countries. International solidarity is fundamental to Africa's development and international cooperation and support must necessarily complement the national resources mobilized by the African countries themselves.

18. The critical situations of the least developed countries, which are particularly marginalized from the world economy, require the priority attention of the entire international community, in support of appropriate domestic economic and social policies. The heavy burden of debt and debt service on their economies, deterioration in the terms of trade, decline in real terms in recent years in the overall level of official development assistance (ODA) and limited flows of private resources are some of the main factors that impede the already limited opportunities for these countries to participate in and benefit from the process of globalization and liberalization. By most measures of economic and human well-being, the least developed countries lag seriously behind. Their social indicators are consistently low and have worsened in some cases. Their institutional and physical infrastructure is fragile and therefore enhanced national and international support are required to strengthen them.

19. The special problems of small island developing States also need to be given priority attention by the international community. The special challenges and constraints to their development arising from, inter alia, their limited market size and resource base, from their particular transportation and communication problems, and from their high degree of vulnerability to natural and environmental disaster need to be addressed.

20. Lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked developing countries. The special challenges and constraints specific to these countries need to be addressed.

(d) Post-cold war realities and challenges

(i) Special problems and features of countries with economies in transition

21. The special problems and features of countries with economies in transition require particular attention in the post-cold war era. The dual transition to democracy and to a market economy makes their situation especially complex particularly regarding their economic growth and sustainable development. This ongoing process is guided by and based on the respect for human rights, transparent, representative and accountable governance, the rule of law and civil peace.

22. Considerable strains are put on the social fabric of these societies of the countries with economies in transition. Structural adjustments bring economic benefits but are causing social problems which were unknown before the transition. Severe environmental degradation, a worsening population situation and the problem of conversion of military production to civilian in these countries are of primary concern.

23. The completion of the transition process and the integration of these countries in the world economy and their effective involvement in the multilateral institutions will have a positive impact not only on these countries themselves but also on the global economy. Thus, it is especially important for them to promote effective cooperation in trade, economy, finance, science and technology with all countries and regions. Their integration should contribute to economic cooperation with developing countries and to mutually beneficial exchanges of scientific and industrial know-how. Increased cooperation among countries with economies in transition will also be important. In order to bring this integration about in a speedy manner, effective international support for reforms in these countries is essential both in terms of financial resources and of institutional expertise. The measures that should be undertaken in this regard must ensure the maximization of the benefits from and the minimization of the negative effects of trends in the world economy for all countries in particular for developing countries.

(ii) The end of the cold war and the developing countries

24. While the end of the cold war has fostered a new spirit of dialogue and cooperation at the global political level, there is a need to improve the international economic environment so that it is more conducive to the socio-economic development of developing countries, including through the fulfilment of commitments agreed to at the recent major United Nations conferences.

25. In the post cold war situation, the record of development is so far a mixed one. The successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round on multilateral trade negotiations, the consensus on development arising from recent major United Nations conferences and the expansion in private flows to developing countries are positive developments. On the other hand, the recent decline in real terms of ODA, the deterioration in terms of trade and the risk of marginalization from the world economy of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, are particular concerns. The international community and multilateral financial institutions and the World Trade Organization (WTO) should focus their attention on ways to address these concerns effectively.

(e) Democracy, transparent and accountable governance, and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development

26. The waning of ideological conflicts has improved the climate of cooperation at all levels. Although there is no universal prescription for successful development, a consensus has emerged, inter alia, that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework of our efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. In this context, we reaffirm that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

27. Respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, democratic and effective institutions, combating corruption, transparent, representative and accountable governance, popular participation, an independent judiciary, the rule of law and civil peace are among the indispensable foundations for development. At the same time, we reaffirm that the right to development is a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of human rights. As stated in the Declaration on the Right to Development, the human person is the central subject of development. Development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, but the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights.

28. Efforts to reinforce democratic institutions and actions are vital for achieving peace and economic and social progress. Social stability, needed for productive growth, is nurtured by conditions in which people can readily express their will. For this, strong national institutions of participation are essential.

29. The existence of widespread absolute poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and renders democracy and popular participation fragile. It is unacceptable that absolute poverty, hunger and disease, lack of adequate shelter, illiteracy and hopelessness should be the lot of over one billion people. We commit ourselves to the goal of eradicating poverty in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation as an ethical social, political and economic imperative of humankind.

30. Democracy, which is spreading everywhere, has raised development expectations everywhere. Lack of their fulfilment risks the rekindling of non-democratic forces. Structural reforms that do not take social realities into account could destabilize democratization processes as they exacerbate the reaching of that fulfilment. While it is recognized that States have the primary responsibility in securing a sound and stable national political, economic and social environment for development, international support, at the request of interested Governments, and the creation of a favourable international economic environment are crucial ingredients in this effort.

31. It is increasingly recognized that the State's role in development should be complemented by other relevant actors of the civil society, including the private sector. The State has the overall responsibility in various areas, including, inter alia, social, economic and environmental policy formulation, and for creating

an enabling environment for the private sector; the State should encourage effective participation by the private sector and major groups in activities which complement and reinforce national objectives.

32. Every State has an inalienable right to choose its political, economic, social, and cultural systems, without interference in any form by another State. By virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.

B. Objectives

1. Strengthening international cooperation for development

(a) Implementing all international agreements and commitments for development

33. The new opportunities, challenges and risks opened by the globalization and growing interdependence in the world economy, the critical situation and special problems in many developing countries and the special problems of economies in transition heighten the need for strengthened international cooperation. A strong political will is essential to sustain such cooperation. Through this Agenda, we renew our commitment and seek to impart new vigour to a global partnership for development.

34. The international community has convened over the past five years or so a number of major conferences and meetings which have adopted decisions and made commitments on key development issues aimed at reinvigorating the development process and international cooperation for development. These include the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, the World Conference on Education for All held in Jomtien, Thailand, the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the World Summit for Children, the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the Cartagena Commitment, Agenda 21 and the various consensus agreements and conventions adopted before, at, or after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Human Rights, the Global Conference on Small Island Developing States, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the World Food Summit.

35. These conferences bear witness that the United Nations system is and should continue to be more actively involved in the full spectrum of development issues. The accords, commitments and internationally agreed targets reached at these conferences should be fully implemented by all States and international organizations. Only through full implementation can we give credence to the notion that these development initiatives are truly a priority issue for the international community.

36. Such implementation requires foremost political will by all actors at all levels. Too often the gap between what has been agreed and what has been implemented leaves much to be desired both at the national and international levels. The commitments we have made individually and collectively need to be fulfilled if the development needs of all countries, particularly of the developing countries, are to be addressed effectively.

37. To this end we reaffirm, through this Agenda for Development, the continued relevance of the agreements reached at these international conferences and other meetings of the United Nations and stress the need for an integrated, interrelated and coherent implementation and coordinated follow-up to these conferences.

(b) Enhancing the role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system in development

38. As we approach the twenty-first century, it is the collective responsibility of the international community to ensure that within the multidimensional and integrated character of its mandate the United Nations system is equipped to show leadership in the fulfilment of the commitments made on international cooperation for development, and to serve as a forum for the expression of global goals and as an advocate for the promotion and protection of all human rights, including the right to development and the protection of the environment, as well as to respond to humanitarian assistance requirements and to maintain peace and international security.

39. The United Nations system, by virtue of its global reach, its universal membership, its impartiality and the unique and comprehensive mandate reflected in its Charter has a vital role to play in the development process. Enhancing this role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency requires a continuous focus on development issues and ensuring its sound financial basis.

40. The wide array of issues which the United Nations system addresses, is reflected in its various functions, such as those of the specialized agencies, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the regional commissions. Each part of the system has a specific role to play in addressing these issues. Relative strengths and weaknesses among the various parts of the system cannot be ignored. Enhancing the role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system has to take these basic facts into account and programmes should be concentrated on areas where particular needs and the special capacity of the Organization converge.

41. However, overarching these considerations of efficiency and effectiveness of delivery, is the political dimension of the development agenda. The United Nations is unique because it conducts international political debates on all issues in the economic, social and related fields. These debates should provide political impetus to other fora to undertake the necessary policies and measures. Hence, the United Nations political interaction not only with Member States, the specialized agencies, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the regional commissions, as well as with organizations such as the World Trade Organization, but also with non-state actors should be intensified with a view to enhancing effective action and coordination among them in the economic, social and related fields.

42. This Agenda for Development sets out a new framework for international cooperation, defines the role of the United Nations, and how both can make a particular contribution, and sets out the development priorities as well as time-frames for implementation and keeps the implementation of the development agenda under political review.

2. Promoting development based on an integrated approach

43. Sustained economic growth is essential for expanding the resource base for development and hence, for economic, technical and social transformation. It generates the required financial, physical, human and technological resources. It is also essential to the eradication of poverty. An open and equitable framework for trade, investment and technology transfer, as well as enhanced cooperation in the management of a globalized world economy and in the formulation and implementation of macroeconomic policies, are critical for the promotion of growth and development. While the private sector is a motor for economic growth, the government has an active and essential role in the formulation of economic, social and environmental policies.

44. In order to ensure an integrated approach to development centred on human beings and to achieve sustainable development, economic growth on its own is not sufficient and environmental protection cannot be considered in isolation from the development process. The goal of development is the improvement of human well-being and the quality of life. This involves the eradication of poverty, the fulfilment of the basic needs of all people and the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development. It requires that Governments apply active social and environmental policies, and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on the basis of democratic and widely participatory institutions.

45. Investments in health, education and training are particularly critical in the development of human resources and should be pursued in such a way that everyone, both women and men, are given an equal opportunity to participate actively and productively in the development process. The improvement of the role and status of women, including their empowerment, is central to all efforts to achieve sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions. Diversion of resources away from social priorities and needs should be avoided and, where it has occurred, be corrected. Basic social programmes and expenditures, in particular those affecting people living in poverty and the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of society, should be protected from budget reductions. When formulating and implementing structural adjustment policies and programmes such considerations should be taken into account.

46. Development is and should be centred on human beings. Economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework of efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. As the well-being of human beings depends on all facets of development, a multidimensional approach to development is essential. Therefore, any formulation of strategies, policies, and national, subregional, regional and international actions has to be based on an integrated and comprehensive approach. It is in this spirit that we frame this Agenda for Development. All of the areas identified for action are closely interrelated for implementation of this Agenda.

II. POLICY FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

47. An encouraging development in recent years has been the almost universal pursuit of increased economic openness and integration. This has contributed to a growing economic and social interdependence among countries. It is a common responsibility and in the common interest to ensure that these trends continue and also to ensure that all countries benefit from them. The last point is fundamental: the benefits attributable to these various changes have been widespread, but they have been neither universal nor achieved without costs. A primary objective of the implementation of this Agenda should be to contribute in such a way that the benefits stemming from future growth and development are distributed equitably among all countries and peoples.

48. Achieving and maintaining an international environment favourable to all countries is in the interest of all countries. Global economic, environmental and social issues can be approached effectively only through a constructive dialogue and genuine partnership among all countries. This requires a recognition not only of the mutuality of interests and benefits but also of common, though differentiated, responsibilities. This mutual understanding has permeated the ongoing sequence of United Nations world conferences and summits.

49. However, some of the commitments and agreements for development, including those referring to international development cooperation, resulting from these conferences and summits, as well as from previous international undertakings, remain to be fulfilled. These commitments, as well as the new and additional priority actions identified here, should be implemented in the spirit of solidarity and partnership. In this context, efforts should be made to mobilize public support for development cooperation, inter alia, through a strategy based on partnership between developed and developing countries, which incorporates, as appropriate, mutually agreed goals for development.

A. Economic development

1. Macroeconomic policies geared towards sustained economic growth and sustainable development

50. National developmental policies should be formulated in conformity with national needs, conditions and development priorities and should take into account the lessons learned from decades of development

experience. Among the latter, the dynamic role of the private sector and the contribution of human resource development in creating wealth figure prominently. The challenge for public authorities is, inter alia, to develop and implement policies that are conducive to prosperity, eradicate poverty and conserve the environment.

51. To this end, Governments should encourage a supportive environment for the private sector, including active competition policies, the application of the rule of law, an open framework for trade and investment and sound fiscal and monetary policies. In the area of finance, policies need both to promote domestic savings and to attract external resources for productive investment. For both purposes, it is necessary to improve the efficiency of domestic financial markets. Addressing the needs of people living in poverty, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of society and the creation of more and better jobs requires attention to be given to conducive macroeconomic policies and to such issues as human resources development, gender equality, public participation and social integration. Social and environmental factors should be considered as important elements to be taken into account by all countries in the formulation and implementation of macroeconomic policies. Particular attention should be paid to the effect of structural adjustment programmes on people living in poverty and on disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of society.

52. Increased economic integration and interdependence places greater responsibilities than before on all countries, but particularly the developed countries, to contribute to ensuring that their domestic policies are favourable to economic growth and development in the rest of the world. National and international actions are closely interrelated and should be seen as mutually reinforcing components of the overall goal of achieving development. In order to foster a supportive international environment for development, countries should pursue economic stability, full employment, a low rate of inflation, sustainable external and internal balances, including the avoidance of excessive budget deficits, low long-term real interest rates and a measure of exchange rate stability. They should also ensure open financial and commercial markets and, where appropriate, provide concessional aid flows.

53. International cooperation in the formulation and implementation of macroeconomic policies should be reinforced with a view to promoting greater coherence and consistency of domestic policies and thereby enhancing their effectiveness. Measures should also be taken to broaden the cooperation among monetary authorities in order to maintain a sound international financial system. This enhanced cooperation should take full account of the interests and concerns of all countries. Multilateral surveillance should correspondingly address the policies and measures of all countries.

2. International trade and commodities

54. The growing, though far from complete, integration of all countries in world trade and investment represents an historic structural change in international economic relations. In recent years, developing countries' trade has increased, largely as a result of their liberalization policies concerning trade and investment. The expansion of developing countries' markets appears to be creating a virtuous circle in which mutually beneficial liberalization of trade and investment can become major means for generating the resources necessary for development.

55. The liberalization of trade regimes and the promotion of an open and secure multilateral trading system are central requirements for the promotion of economic development. All Governments should commit themselves to the liberalization of trade and investment policies and should foster international cooperation towards this goal. All countries have a shared interest in an open, ruled-based equitable, non-discriminatory transparent and predictable multilateral trading system. While many provisions in this area have been identified by the General Assembly, over the last five years, the agreements as represented by the World Trade Organization (WTO) are particularly important. In this regard, the WTO dispute settlements mechanism is a key element for the credibility of the multilateral trade system. The Commitments agreed in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round should be implemented fully. Unilateral actions of a protectionist nature, inconsistent with multilateral trade agreements, should be avoided and prevented. Appropriate monitoring measures should be established to ensure that, in the implementation of the Uruguay Round, the rights, interests and concerns of all countries are protected, recognized and redressed.

56. There is a need to promote greater integration in the world economy of those countries which have not yet benefited from the overall increase in trade and investment flows, in particular African countries and the least developed countries. Special attention should be given to the full implementation of the specific provisions for the least developed countries, including the provisions emanating from the Marrakesh agreements, and to the needs of the net food-importing developing countries, so that all countries benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round. These measures will also require domestic efforts to promote greater diversification of these countries' trade and to increase the competitiveness of their trading sectors.

57. Efforts to make trade and environment policies mutually supportive in favour of sustainable development should continue. Trade liberalization measures should be complemented by sound environmental policies, but measures adopted for environmental purposes should not become a means of arbitrary and unjustifiable trade discrimination or a disguised form of protectionism. In the same vein, social concerns should not be used for protectionist purposes.

58. Commodity exports continue to play a key role in the economies of many developing countries, especially in terms of their export earnings, the livelihoods of their people, and the dependence of general economic vitality on these exports. This makes the continuing deterioration in their terms of trade of special concern, even if there is some recent evidence of improvement in the prices of some primary commodities. Increased participation of developing countries in the processing, marketing and distribution of their commodities, if accompanied by improved market access, provides an alternative means for ensuring greater value added, as well as predictability and increased export earnings, from commodity production. This diversification will require such countries to continue their macroeconomic, trade and investment policy reforms.

59. It will also require a strong commitment by the international community to support such policy reforms. The international community should endeavour to improve the functioning of commodity markets, with greater transparency and more stable and predictable conditions. There should be further evaluation of the usefulness of commodity agreements in this regard, taking into account the potential of new financial and trading instruments and techniques. Improved market access for primary commodities, especially in their processed forms, should be provided, particularly by developed countries. They should also respond favourably to requests for technical assistance aimed at enhancing the diversification of the export sector in those developing countries which are highly dependent on the export of a limited number of commodities. The strengthening of multilateral compensatory financing schemes is a further means of addressing the short-term difficulties that can arise as a result of heavy dependence on commodity exports.

60. UNCTAD must build upon its comparative advantage and offer support appropriate to the needs of developing countries to ensure that they participate in the world economy on a more equitable basis. The policy research and analytical work of UNCTAD must illuminate the changes in the global economy as they relate to trade, investment, technology, services and development. This work should be undertaken in cooperation with WTO and other relevant international institutions.

3. Issues of internal and external finance

(a) Mobilization of domestic resources for development

61. Both domestic and external resources are required for development. In most countries, domestic savings contribute by far the larger part of the resources utilized for investment and are mainly mobilized through national fiscal and monetary policies, including equitable taxation and fiscal incentives. Exploring new ways of generating new public and private financial resources, inter alia, through the appropriate reduction of excessive military expenditures, including global military expenditures and the arms trade, and investments for arms production and acquisition, taking into consideration national security requirements, so as to allow possible allocation of additional funds for social and economic development will be undertaken.

62. The experiences of those developing countries which have achieved high rates of economic growth in recent years show that sustained economic growth is linked to an effective strategy for domestic resource mobilization. These economies have maintained significantly higher rates of national savings and investment than other developing countries. However, some developing countries have limited scope for increasing savings because of their low per capita income levels and because levels of consumption are already low and are difficult to restrain further; these countries will continue to need substantial external resources as an important complement to domestic efforts to stimulate their development.

(b) External resources

63. Total net resource flows to developing countries have expanded rapidly in the 1990s. However, the trend has not been universal, in terms of either the types of financing or the recipients. Within the total, official (public sector) flows have languished; all the growth has been accounted for by an increase in the private sector component. Secondly, while some low-income countries have been the recipients of the increased private sector capital flows, others have not benefited at all.

(c) External debt

64. There is an urgent need for effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, and to help them exit from the rescheduling process. The evolving debt strategy has contributed to the improvement in the debt situation of a number of developing countries. Debt-relief measures have been undertaken by creditor countries both within the framework of the Paris Club and through their cancellation and equivalent relief of bilateral official debt. Nevertheless, external debt and debt-servicing problems have persisted, particularly for the poorest and heavily indebted countries. Debt-service problems of middle-income countries should continue to be addressed effectively.

65. Those developing countries that have continued, at great cost to themselves, to meet their international debt and debt-service obligations in a timely fashion have done so despite serious external and domestic financial constraints.

(d) Official development assistance

66. Official development assistance (ODA) is a small proportion of a country's total resources for development, but is a significant source of external resources for many developing countries, particularly African countries and the least developed countries. As such, it can play an important complementary and catalytic role in promoting economic growth. Despite its critical importance, the overall decline in ODA is a serious cause for concern.

(e) Role of multilateral financial institutions

67. The multilateral financial institutions have an important role to play in meeting the challenges and urgent needs of development and the commitments made in a series of recent international conferences. Renewed efforts should be made in order to provide them with resources commensurate with their role, while pursuing ongoing efforts to increase efficiency and effectiveness. In order that international financial facilities, particularly the International Development Association (IDA), have more positive effects on development, the commitments for their replenishment should be fully implemented in a timely manner, thereby contributing more effectively to development.

(f) United Nations financing for development

68. At present, the capacity of United Nations funds and programmes to respond to the needs of developing countries is being threatened by the persistent insufficiency of resources for the operational development activities of the United Nations, in particular the decline in contributions to core resources. At the same time, the present sequence of global conferences and other international meetings has resulted in

a wide range of additional development demands being imposed on the United Nations. The efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, and impact of the operational activities of the United Nations system must also be enhanced.

(g) Private investment flows

69. Private resource flows to developing countries, including foreign direct investment (FDI), have increased in recent years. Key determinants for attracting external private sector capital are, inter alia, a stable domestic political, legal and economic environment, based on the rule of law, sound economic policies and an openness to foreign investment. Other factors include the prospects for growth and a favourable external environment.

70. The growth in FDI in developing countries is of particular importance since, in addition to finance, the recipient economy usually benefits in terms of technology transfer and enhanced access to export markets. However, FDI in developing countries, as well as the recent parallel surge in international portfolio investment, has been concentrated in the more advanced economies, the larger economies and those with high rates of economic growth. This situation needs to be addressed. There is also a need to promote favourable conditions for achieving international stability in private capital flows and to prevent the destabilization arising from swift movements of private capital flows.

(h) Peace dividend

71. When the cold war ended, a peace dividend appeared at hand. The relaxation of international tensions was thought to offer opportunities for reducing military spending worldwide and for using the resources so released to enhance spending on social and economic development for the benefit of all countries. There should be an appropriate reduction of excessive military expenditures, including global military expenditures and the arms trade, and investments for arms production and acquisition, taking into consideration national security requirements, so as to allow possible allocation of additional funds for social and economic development. While the reduction in global political tensions has yielded many benefits, the impact on development has not materialized in the tangible form or to the extent that was foreseen.

4. Science and technology

72. The ability of countries to participate in, benefit from and contribute to the rapid advances in science and technology can significantly influence their development. Hence, international cooperation efforts should be intensified and strengthened towards the developing countries' endogenous capacity-building in science and technology, including their capacity to utilize scientific and technological developments from abroad and to adapt them to suit local conditions. There is a need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries. In this regard, the international community is called upon to meet all the objectives as reaffirmed in chapter 34 of Agenda 21.

73. Promotion of science and technology for development calls for a clear definition of the respective roles in this area of the private sector, Governments and international organizations. The private sector plays a role in the productive application of science and technology and most commercially relevant technology is controlled by the private sector. Governments play a role in ensuring that there is a propitious environment for the development, access to, transfer, adaptation and application of environmentally sound technologies, and in providing appropriate regulatory frameworks and incentives for the development of scientific and technological capabilities. Promotion of science and technology for development also requires a labour force that has the professional and technical training necessary to utilize newly introduced technologies.

74. Developing countries should further advance their collective efforts in promoting technology research, training, development and dissemination, as well as facilitating the access and exchange through information and technology centres. This development calls for the continued and enhanced support from the international community through technical assistance and financing. The international community should also continue to promote the development of effective and mutually beneficial technological cooperation between countries with economies in transition and all other countries, including in the area of new and emerging technologies.

75. International cooperation can complement national science and technology policy measures and is necessary in areas where global interests are at stake. The world community has a common interest in the development and widespread dissemination of technology geared towards environmental protection and conservation and the rational use of energy and raw materials. Governments should implement the commitments they made in Agenda 21 on this subject.

5. South-South cooperation

76. South-South cooperation is an integral and dynamic part of international development cooperation. The end of the cold war, increasing globalization, liberalization, regional cooperation, and interdependence are all making such cooperation more imperative. The countries of the South exhibit common as well as varying development experiences and know-how which offer many opportunities at the bilateral, subregional, regional, interregional and international levels for greater cooperation between them. Grasping these opportunities will result in a stronger basis for their self-reliance and development as well as provide an important complement to international development cooperation.

77. Exploiting trade opportunities among countries of the South by undertaking trade promotion activities, devising payment arrangements and expanding availability of trade information is particularly important. At the same time, there are many other areas, such as communications, information, transportation, investments, science and technology, environment, food and agriculture, population, education, and human resource development, in which South-South cooperation can be fostered and promoted.

78. Technical cooperation, arrangements to improve market access, technical and financial assistance, sharing of knowledge and technology, and exchange of information are some of the many ways and actions by which developing countries that have been able to achieve social and economic progress can assist those that have been less successful. The concept of triangular cooperation, which involves, inter alia, technical, financial and other support by developed countries and international organizations for South-South cooperation, can also make a significant contribution to the promotion of cooperation among developing countries. All these collaborative efforts should be accorded high priority and increased support from the international community and assistance from all sources, including relevant multilateral institutions and non-State actors.

6. Regional economic cooperation

79. Regional economic integration and cooperation is increasingly recognized as a means towards expanding trade and investment opportunities, and for promoting economic growth and sustainable development and other forms of cooperation between countries of various regions. Regional arrangements can also contribute to growth of the world economy.

80. Regional economic integration and cooperation should be actively considered as a means of eliminating obstacles to trade and investment and of fostering economic cooperation within a region. However, there is the risk that regional organizations may turn inward and that the world will evolve into competing economic blocs. Therefore, reductions of barriers to trade and investment among members or participants in regional groupings should be consistent with internationally agreed rules, where applicable, and without detriment to other economies.

81. Regional economic groupings should be outward oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system. This requires a strong commitment by the international community, in its pursuit of regional economic integration and cooperation, to open regionalism within the framework of an equitable, non-discriminatory and rule-based multilateral trading system.

82. Regional cooperation also provides a vehicle for addressing environmental and social issues of common concern. The development of common approaches to environmental problems of a transboundary nature is particularly pertinent. National efforts in combating poverty and unemployment and promoting social integration can also benefit from regional cooperation. Furthermore, possibilities could be explored to use regional forums as means of cooperation in supporting national action to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law and democratic institutions.

83. Regional integration and cooperation should be complementary and contributory to national policies and to global multilateralism. In order to take advantage of regionalism, multilateral economic and trade institutions must have the capacity to accommodate regional arrangements in their structures. The challenge is to use both global and regional arrangements in a mutually supportive way.

7. Development in agriculture, industry and the services sectors

84. The agricultural, industrial and services sectors need to be developed in a balanced manner. While it is recognized that the private sector is the primary contributor to sectoral development, Governments have an important role to play in creating the enabling environment for sectoral development to flourish, particularly in the agricultural and services sectors. Besides promoting a dynamic and competitive domestic economy, based on comparative advantages, and providing physical and institutional infrastructures, domestic sectoral policies should also seek to integrate the protection and conservation of the environment and the achievement of social development objectives into sectoral development plans.

85. In implementing sectoral policies, particular attention should be given to the potential of such policies to generate employment and contribute towards the eradication of poverty. In this context, the important contribution of small and medium-sized enterprises should be recognized. It is also essential to facilitate women's equal access to resources, training, employment, market and trade and to strengthen their economic capacity and commercial networks, as well as their equal access to and equal opportunity to participate in scientific and technological areas.

86. The agricultural sector remains the main source of income for the majority of the population in developing countries. Its marginalization from the overall process of economic development should be avoided. Agricultural policies should particularly aim at increasing food production, improving access to food by low-income people and enhancing the income-generating potential of agriculture. Developing countries, with the support of the international community, should promote the development of small and medium-sized agro-industries and cooperatives and improve the processing, transportation, distribution and marketing of food and other agricultural products. Governments should enhance, at the national and local levels, rural women's income-generating potential by facilitating their equal access to and control over productive resources, land, credit, capital, property rights, development programmes and cooperative structures.

87. The industrial sector constitutes one of the key factors in sustained economic growth and in achieving social objectives. In order to promote industrial development, policies in this area should be geared towards ensuring the legal and institutional framework that fosters entrepreneurship and attracts foreign investment, protecting intellectual property rights and facilitating technology cooperation. Moreover, special support should be given to the promotion and development of environmentally sustainable industry and attention needs to be directed to rural industrial development, to industrialization programmes for marginalized segments and regions, and to enhancing the role of women in industrial development.

88. The services sector is of increasing importance for the economies of developing countries. Developing countries should continue to pursue policies to create conditions for the development of their national services sector through the modernization of the necessary infrastructures. Measures should include enhancing the efficiency of domestic sectors by encouraging human resource development and by ensuring appropriate investment policies.

89. All countries should enhance the efficiency of domestic service sectors through greater internal and external competition and by ensuring the transparency, effectiveness and non-discriminatory nature of domestic regulations, in accordance to each country's commitments, and with the provisions of GATT, including article IV on the increasing participation of developing countries. The developing countries face a major challenge of strengthening their domestic services' capabilities to derive full benefits from the implementation of the General Agreement on Trade in Services. In this context, as reaffirmed in the ninth session of UNCTAD, appropriate technical assistance should be extended to the developing countries to develop and strengthen their service sectors to help ensure that they reap the maximum benefits from liberalization of trade in services.

90. The domestic sectoral policies elaborated by developing countries should be supported by a favourable international action. Trade liberalization should be pursued on a global basis. It should include the liberalization of market access in sectors and modes of supply of exports of interest to developing countries and should cover access to technology on a commercial basis, to distribution channels and to information networks. With the growing internationalization of the services sector, further action should be taken to facilitate the participation of developing countries in international service transactions.

B. Social development

91. Equitable social development is a necessary foundation for development and an important factor for the eradication of poverty. The commitments agreed at the World Summit for Social Development should be fully implemented.

92. The ultimate goal of development is to improve and enhance human well-being and the quality of life of all people. Social development is best pursued if Governments actively promote empowerment and participation in a democratic and pluralistic system respectful of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. Efforts to sustain broad-based economic growth reinforce the promotion of social development. Processes to promote increased and equal economic opportunities, to avoid exclusion and overcome socially divisive disparities while respecting diversity are also part of an enabling environment for social development.

93. It is the primary responsibility of States to attain social development. But the international community, the United Nations system, the multilateral financial institutions, all regional organizations and local authorities, and all actors of civil society also need to contribute their own share of efforts and resources to promote social development and to reduce inequalities among people and narrow the gap between developed and developing countries. As part of these shared responsibilities, interested developed and developing country partners could agree on mutual commitments to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of ODA and 20 per cent of their national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes.

1. Eradication of poverty and hunger

94. Poverty continues to affect far too many people in the world. Hunger and malnutrition, ill-health, lack of access to safe drinking water, low access to education and other public services and resources, exclusion, lack of participation and violence are some of the many aspects that characterize poverty. Widespread poverty affects the future of societies, as children growing up in poverty are often permanently disadvantaged. The burden of poverty is disproportionately borne by women. Though poverty occurs in all countries, its extent and manifestation are particularly severe in developing countries.

95. The goal of eradicating poverty in the world is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative. It can only be achieved through a multidimensional and integrated approach, that combines programmes targeted at people living in poverty with policies and strategies that meet the basic needs of all, strengthen their productive capacities, empower them to participate in decision-making on policies that affect them, ensure access of all to productive resources, opportunities, public services, and enhance social protection and reduce vulnerability. Sustained and broad-based economic growth, social development and environmental protection are crucial for raising living standards and for eliminating poverty in a sustained manner.

96. At international conferences organized by the United Nations in the recent years, Governments committed themselves to meet the basic needs of all. High priority should be placed on achieving and monitoring the goals and targets set in the areas of education, health, food security, shelter and access to safe drinking water and sanitation, in partnership with major development actors.

97. At the Social Summit, it was decided to formulate or strengthen, preferably by 1996, national policies and strategies geared to substantially reducing overall poverty in the shortest possible time, to reducing inequalities, and eradicating absolute poverty by a target date to be specified by each country. National budgets and policies should be designed with the strategic objective of meeting basic needs, eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities.

98. The eradication of poverty requires determined national actions. At the same time, the international community, bilaterally and through the multilateral financial institutions and other international organizations, should support the efforts of developing countries in the eradication of poverty and in ensuring basic social protection.

99. Commitments and targets agreed upon since 1990 to achieve the overall goal of poverty eradication should be fully implemented by Governments, in partnership with all development actors, the United Nations system, including financial institutions, NGOs and the international community as a whole. The United Nations system should make every effort to enhance the coordination of actions relative to poverty eradication, and to support developing countries and other countries in that endeavour.

100. Hunger and malnutrition continue to be the fate of hundreds of millions of people, most of whom live in Africa and the least developed countries. Eliminating hunger and malnutrition and achieving food security are major objectives of this agenda. Therefore, the institutional structures of the United Nations system must be made more effective in this respect.

101. The key to increasing food production lies in sustainable development of the agricultural sector and in improving market opportunities. Solving the problems in developing countries calls for improving agricultural productivity, but also for financial incentives to encourage investment in agriculture. It is also important to promote secure land tenure and access to resources and technology for farmers, in particular women, whose role is crucial in food supply and food security. The macroeconomic and trade policy issues and the social factors that constrain and limit the achievement of food security in least developed countries should also be addressed.

102. The international community should support the efforts of Africa and the least developed countries to increase food security. It should strive to ensure coordinated and rapid delivery of food assistance in situations of transitory food insecurity, in full awareness of longer term national and local development objectives and of the need to improve access to food of the most vulnerable groups of the population.

2. Employment

103. Creating adequately and appropriately remunerated employment for all and reducing unemployment and underemployment are essential for combating poverty and for promoting social integration.

104. Pursuing the goal of full employment should be a basic priority of economic and social policies, so as to enable all men and women to attain secure and sustainable livelihoods through freely chosen productive employment and work. At the WSSD, Governments agreed on those common goals, and on a set of objectives, policies and strategies to achieve them.

105. Economic growth as well as the expansion of productive employment should go hand in hand. The expansion of adequately and appropriately remunerated employment and the reduction of unemployment should be placed at the centre of economic and social policies with the participation of employers, workers and their respective organizations. The basic rights and interests of workers and the quality of jobs should be ensured and the relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) should be fully respected. Also essential is to ensure equal employment opportunities for women and men. Special efforts should be made against long-term and structural unemployment and underemployment, particularly among youth and women. In employment creation, employment development strategies should take into account the role of self-employment, entrepreneurship, small and medium size enterprises, and of the informal sector.

106. The United Nations should elaborate ways and means to implement, follow up and assess the outcome of the Social Summit in relation to the goal of full employment through expansion of productive employment and the reduction of unemployment. The General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council with the support of the Commission for Social Development and other relevant bodies as well as the World Bank and the IMF, should be involved in the implementation, follow-up, and assessment of international commitments on employment. The ILO, because of its mandate, has a special role to play in this regard.

3. Social integration

107. The aim of social integration is to create "a society for all", where every individual, each with rights and responsibilities, has an active role to play. Since the founding of the United Nations, the quest for humane, stable, safe, tolerant and just societies has shown a mixed record. While progress has been achieved in many areas, there have also been negative developments, such as social polarization and fragmentation, widening disparities and inequalities of income and wealth within and among nations, and marginalization of people, families and social groups. Even entire countries have been negatively affected due to rapid social change, economic transformation, migration and major dislocations, particularly in areas of armed conflicts and violence in its various manifestations.

108. These are compelling reasons for actions by Governments, individually and, as appropriate, jointly, to foster social cohesion, while recognizing and protecting diversity. An inclusive society must be based on respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, on non-discrimination, tolerance, equality of opportunity, solidarity, security, respect for diversity, and on participation of all people, including the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and persons. The problems of crime, violence and abuse of and trafficking in drugs should also be addressed. International cooperation in the area of drugs should be reinforced in accordance with the Global Programme of Action adopted in the context of the international decade to fight drug abuse. In this context, the convening of a special session of the General Assembly in order to consider the fight against the illicitproduction, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, and to propose new strategies, methods, practical activities and specific measures to strengthen international cooperation in addressing the problem of illicit drugs is of the highest importance.

4. Human resources development

109. At the World Conference on Education for All and the World Summit for Social Development, Governments committed themselves to ensuring universal access to quality education, attaining the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health, and to ensuring access of all to primary health care. This should include efforts to rectify inequalities relating to social conditions, race, national origin, age, disability, and between urban and rural areas. Appropriate steps should be taken to close the gender gap at all levels of education and to ensure the full access of women to health care throughout the life cycle.

110. Quality education is critical for enabling people to develop their full capacities in health and dignity, and to participate actively in the social, economic and political process of development. It is also crucial for achieving the objectives of economic development. Education and vocational training are the key to higher productivity, and allow faster and easier adaptation to technological and economic change. They are vital for job creation and combating unemployment, and for sustained growth.

111. Resolute and vigorous national actions are crucial for developing human resources. Governments have committed themselves to formulating or strengthening strategies for the eradication of illiteracy and universalization of basic education. The link between education and training and labour market policies should be strengthened, so as to facilitate the adaptation of workers and employers to changing economic conditions, technologies and labour markets. Not only should the importance of higher education and scientific research be emphasized, but also of broadening the means and scope of basic education, of enhancing the learning environment and of promoting lifelong learning.

112. From the perspective of the economy at large, it is of great importance that the requisite policies be applied to ensure human resources development, including a satisfactory level of education and training of the workforce and increasing their receptivity to technological innovations, in particular in the field of information technology.

113. Efforts to achieve the goals of national "Health-for-All"strategies, in line with the Alma Ata Conference Declaration on Primary Health Care, should be expedited. The need for an integrated and intersectoral approach to health strategies has been recognized, as well as the importance of strengthening national and international efforts to prevent and combat epidemics and other diseases that are endemic in many developing countries, and in particular to address malaria and the spread of HIV/AIDS more effectively.

114. At previous international conferences, Governments agreed upon a set of goals and objectives for national and international efforts in the area of education and literacy, and health, in particular for maternal and child health and the control of major communicable diseases. We are committed to achieving those goals within the time-frame we agreed to.

115. Enhanced international cooperation is also called for to advance human resource development. Concerted efforts should be made to support the efforts of developing countries, especially the least developed countries, and other countries in need, to develop their human resources. Developed countries have an important role to play. Human resources development and institution-building can also be promoted through cooperation among developing countries. International organizations, including the international financial institutions, must give high priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations. Support might include, inter alia, exchange of information, training and skill development programmes, as well as the provision of other forms of assistance.

5. Human settlements

116. More people than ever are living in absolute poverty and without adequate shelter. Inadequate shelter and homelessness are growing plights in many countries, threatening standards of health, security and even life itself. Urban settlements have the ability to support large numbers of people while limiting their impact on the natural environment. Yet many cities are witnessing harmful patterns of growth, of production and consumption, of land use, of mobility and of degradation of their physical infrastructure.

117. At the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), the international community adopted the goals and principles of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world. It reaffirmed its commitment to the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing, as provided for in international instruments. The international community also subscribed to the principles and goals of equitable human settlements, in which all people have equal access to housing, infrastructure, health services, adequate food and water, education and open spaces. It affirmed that eradication of poverty is essential for sustainable human settlements.

118. Sustainable development is essential to human settlements development and gives full consideration to the needs and necessities of achieving economic growth, social development and environmental protection. Special consideration should be given to the specific situation and needs of developing countries, and, as appropriate, of countries with economies in transition. Human settlements shall be planned, developed and improved in a manner that takes full account of sustainable development principles and all their components, as set out in Agenda 21 and related outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

119. Formulation and implementation of strategies for human settlements development are primarily the responsibility of each country at national and local levels within the legal framework of each country. National plans of action and/or other relevant national programmes and actions to achieve the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development will need to be developed or strengthened, where appropriate, and their implementation will need to be monitored and evaluated by governments in close cooperation with their partners in development at the national level. There is also a need for an enabling international environment and for integrated approaches at the national and international levels to support these efforts.

120. New and additional financial resources from various sources are necessary to achieve the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world. The existing resources available to developing countries - public, private, multilateral, bilateral, domestic, and external - need to be enhanced through appropriate and flexible mechanisms and economic instruments to support adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development. These should be accompanied by concrete measures for international technical cooperation and information exchange.

121. The United Nations system, in cooperation with all States and with relevant international and non-governmental organizations also has a key role to play in promoting international cooperation on the provision of adequate shelter and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world as well as in rural areas.

C. Empowerment of women

122. While the status of women has advanced in some important respects in the past decade, progress has been uneven, inequalities between men and women have persisted and major obstacles remain to women's empowerment, with serious consequences for the well-being of all people.

123. The Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned as well as non-governmental organizations.

124. Empowering women is essential for achieving the goals of sustainable development centred on human beings. It requires appropriate public policies to ensure that women enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms and participate fully and equally in all spheres of public life, including in decision-making. Public policies to promote women's economic potential and independence and their full and equal participation in development are also essential for women's empowerment. Before decisions are taken in the areas of social and economic development and of the environment, an analysis should be made of their impact on women and men respectively.

125. Measures should be taken to ensure the full enjoyment by women and the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. Actions to be taken by States in this regard include fulfillingtheir commitments regarding the ratification of, accession to and the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women so that universal ratification of the Convention can be achieved by the year 2000, and avoiding as far as possible resorting to reservations. Measures should also be taken to ensure women's full and equal access to economic resources and social services through full respect for their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

126. Measures are needed to ensure women's equal access to education and to training and retraining. The targets set by the Fourth World Conference on Women for achieving gender equality in primary and secondary education should be implemented. Measures should be taken to ensure women's equal rights with men, equal access to economic resources and social services, including, inter alia, land, credit, science and technology, vocational training, information, communication, markets, education, and the right to inheritance. Eliminating occupational segregation and wage inequality, creating a flexible work environment that facilitates the restructuring of work patterns and the sharing of family responsibilities, are also major goals. Methods should be developed for assessing the value of unremunerated work outside national accounts. Policies and development strategies that address the needs and efforts of women living in poverty should be reviewed, adopted or maintained in line with the recommendations of the Beijing Platform for Action.

127. Measures are also needed to achieve women's full participation in decision-making processes in all walks of life and at all levels. The success of policies and measures aimed at supporting or strengthening the promotion of gender equality and the improvement of the status of women should be based on the integration of the gender perspective in general policies relating to all spheres of society as well as the implementation of positive measures with adequate institutional and financial support at all levels. Enhanced participation by women will also contribute to ensuring that all policies and programmes are designed, implemented and monitored in full awareness of their possible or actual gender-specific effects.

128. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action should be urgently implemented in its entirety. Adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources to developing countries from all available funding mechanisms to strengthen the advancement of women, are required. The implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women - aimed at achieving equality by the year 2000 - should be accelerated. Also called for is implementation of the relevant sections of Agenda 21 and of the Programmes of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development and by the World Summit for Social Development, as well as of the Geneva Declaration on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights.

D. Rights of the child

129. Children are the most important resource for the future. Greater investment in children by parents and societies is essential to the achievement of sustained economic growth, social development and environmental protection. Therefore, the promotion, to the fullest extent, of the health, well-being and potential of all children, adolescents and youth is a crucial objective. The international community expressed its commitment to that objective when it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child and at the World Summit for Children. We call for full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and encourage States to remove all reservations to that Convention.

130. Measures must be undertaken by States, with the support of the international community, to achieve, by the year 2000, the goals contained in the plan of action adopted at the World Summit for Children and to reach the goals set by subsequent international forums for the year 2000 and beyond. The rights of children must be ensured, with special attention paid to the particular situation of girls. Their rights to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and their rights to education must be ensured, recognizing the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents and other persons legally responsible for children to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacity of the child, appropriate direction. The efforts of developing countries to achieve those major goals must be supported.

131. Exploitation, maltreatment, child prostitution and child abuse should be combated, and the root causes of these phenomena have to be addressed. Actions are also needed for improving the situation and protecting the rights of children in especially difficult circumstances and ensuring that the vital importance of

family reunification is recognized, in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and taking into account the relevant provisions of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

132. Another key issue with regard to the rights of the child is child labour, which is pervasive in many parts of the world. Overall socio-economic conditions, income uncertainty, women's health and education, schooling opportunities and the size of households all have an impact on child labour. Abolishing child labour requires setting specific target dates for eliminating all forms of child labour that are contrary to accepted international standards, in particular article 32 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, for ensuring the full enforcement of relevant existing laws, and, where appropriate, for enacting the legislation necessary to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and relevant ILO standards. In this context, priority should be given to the elimination of all extreme forms of child labour such as forced labour, bonded labour and other forms of slavery. National efforts in dealing with the problem of working children can be complemented by international support measures which may include provision of education facilities as well as compensatory support measures for their families.

E. Population and development and international migration

133. The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development emphasized the importance of translating the Conference's recommendations into actions at all levels. This will involve decisive actions by Governments and increased support from the international community. The effective implementation of the Programme of Action will require an increased commitment of financial resources, both domestically and externally. The developed countries have committed themselves to complementing the national efforts of developing countries on population and development. The Programme of Action includes commitments to increase substantially the availability of international financial assistance to the developing countries in the field of population and development in order to ensure that population and development objectives and goals are met.

134. In this connection, Governments should commit themselves at the highest political level to achieving the goals and objectives contained in the Programme of Action and should take a lead role in coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of follow-up actions. The Programme of Action endorsed the crucial role of NGOs, reflected in an effective partnership between government and NGOs in all aspects of population and development-related programmes and policies. The capacity of NGOs for entering into such a partnership needs to be enhanced.

135. The Programme of Action and Agenda 21, among others, affirm that demographic trends cannot be considered in isolation from development. Therefore, population programmes are not simply about numbers and demographic targets, but rather about the human beings who are at the centre of population and development activities. Consequently, the Programme of Action is grounded in a development and human rights framework and underscores the need to reconcile the aspirations and requirements of individual women and men with long-term development objectives.

136. Countries have learned much about the relationships between population growth and sustainable development. There is general agreement that persistent widespread poverty as well as serious social and gender inequalities have significant influences on, and are in turn influenced by, such demographic parameters as population growth, structure and distribution. Gender equality, including full and equal access to education by women, and universal access to basic health care services, including those relating to reproductive health services, are essential to achieving population and development objectives. Furthermore, integrating population into economic and development strategies will both speed up the pace of sustainable development and poverty eradication and contribute to the achievement of population objectives and an improved quality of life of the population.

137. Successful reproductive health care, including family planning programmes, must be based on the principle of free and responsible choice of family size and child-spacing, which includes the ability of men and women to make informed decisions on the number and spacing of their children. Such choice calls for

access to the widest possible range of health care programmes and services and for greater support for reproductive health services and appropriate educational programmes.

138. Concomitant support is needed for stronger, better coordinated global actions against major diseases that take a heavy toll of human lives, such as malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, typhoid and HIV/AIDS. In this context, the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS should be brought into full operation as quickly as possible and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on malaria should be implemented.

139. The international community also has a vital role to play in attaining the objectives of the Programme of Action regarding international migration and development, which reflects the special importance attached to the impact of international migration on both countries of origin and receiving States. The flow of people between countries, and indeed within countries, affects and is affected by the development process. As underlined in the Programme of Action, international economic imbalances, poverty and environmental degradation, combined with the absence of peace and security, violations of human rights and the varying degrees of development of judicial and democratic institutions are all factors in the movement of people.

140. There is a need to formulate or strengthen measures at the national level to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in sectors of many societies, and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies. Ultimately, the long-term manageability of international migration hinges on making the option to remain in one's country a viable one for all people. The possibility of convening an international conference on migration and development could be considered.

F. Environment and development

1. Full implementation of Agenda 21 and other outcomes of UNCED

141. The consensus on and basis for actions at global, regional, subregional, national and local levels to ensure sustainable development has been established by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests, as well as in all international conventions on the environment and development. Priority must be given to the prompt and full implementation of these commitments and recommendations.

142. At UNCED an integrated approach towards development and environment was adopted, whereby the protection of the environment would constitute an integral part of the development process and could not be viewed in isolation from it. Depletion and degradation of nature and its resources endanger the prospects for development, for our generation and even more so for the future generations. The cost of reversal will be far higher than the cost of prevention. Therefore, sustainable development strategies and programmes which aim at integrating environmental protection requirements into economic, social and development policies should be formulated and implemented at all levels. All States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and development policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, in keeping with the principles contained in the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21 and relevant international environment conventions.

143. Eradication of poverty should have the highest priority on the international agenda. One of the adverse effects of poverty, which affects mostly developing countries, is related to environmental and natural resource degradation. The essential task of eradicating poverty is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development in order to decrease the disparities in standards of living and better meet the needs of the majority of the people of the world. Strategies aimed at poverty eradication are also important in avoiding degradation of resources.

158. Many emergencies reflect the underlying crisis of development facing many developing countries which needs to be addressed by Governments and the international community if the emergency is not to recur. Therefore, in order to prevent the occurrence or recurrence of emergency situations, support is required for medium and long-term social and economic development. The implementation of commitments to sustainable development, including those related to economic growth, will contribute to the ability of developing countries to undertake disaster prevention and preparedness, including, inter alia, support for food security, strengthening health and education systems in affected countries, as well as equal access to education, the building up of national institutions, and for the rule of law as well as for strengthening the capacity of recipient institutions to manage emergency situations.

1. Continuum from relief to rehabilitation and development

159. Where emergency situations arise, rapid provision of humanitarian assistance by the international community remains, of course, imperative. However, this form of assistance must be planned with a view to an equally rapid transition to rehabilitation and reconstruction and be part of the continuum concept which aims at resuming development at the earliest opportunity. At the same time, it should be recognized that the continuum concept may require different approaches in different situations.

160. Prevention, preparedness, emergency response, economic recovery and rehabilitation are all part of a comprehensive response to reduce developing country vulnerability to emergencies. Thus far, however, the international community has mostly only been able to react to emergencies through the provision of humanitarian assistance which can only alleviate human suffering in a short-term perspective. Expenditure on relief activities should not have a negative impact on development programmes.

161. In virtually all post-emergency situations, resettlement of refugees, displaced persons and other disaster victims as well as the restoration of physical infrastructure are some of the major conditions for recovery. In cases of post-conflict peace-building situations, programmes such as demining, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants as well as confidence-building and reconciliation measures are essential for moving forward in the continuum towards development. Equally important are restoring public institutions, police and judicial systems, and resuming economic and social development in preventing possible resurgence of conflict situations.

162. Although certain intermediate phases can be established, the distinction between different stages of the emergency to development continuum is often vague. This requires a comprehensive and coordinated response not only to rehabilitation and reconstruction but also to development needs, by the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, the international community and Governments. The mandates of humanitarian agencies and development organizations must be delineated clearly in order to counter the tendency of these agencies and organizations to extend mandates, either from relief to development or vice versa, without having necessarily the institutional capacity to effectively take on such new roles.

163. In order for the international community to respond rapidly and effectively to humanitarian emergencies at the various stages of the continuum, the establishment of an international network of voluntary humanitarian relief teams that can be deployed rapidly to cope with humanitarian emergencies, such as the white helmet initiative acting within the framework of the United Nations volunteers, could be considered.

2. Early warning, prevention, preparedness and reduction of natural disasters

164. In recent years, with, in many areas, ever larger populations at risk, disasters have had increasingly major impacts in terms of human and economic losses, impoverishment and long-term displacement of populations. The commitments of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World, adopted by the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, which has defined concrete actions for disaster reduction, should be implemented.

165. Disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness are of primary importance for reducing the need for disaster relief. They should become an integral part of national strategies and programmes for sustainable development. There should be greater efforts to enhance national capabilities for early warning and disaster mitigation, which should be supported with adequate financial resources and transfer of technologies to developing countries and, as appropriate, countries with economies in transition.

166. Enhanced subregional, regional and international cooperation are essential for disaster preparedness. Prevention, mitigation and preparedness for natural disasters, and actions to implement the Yokohama Strategy, could be integrated into the country strategy note, where appropriate. A coordinated and timely preventive response of Governments, non-governmental and other organizations, and agencies and communities requires strengthening of the early-warning potential of the United Nations system.

3. Response to other humanitarian emergencies

167. Humanitarian emergency situations have become more frequent, more widespread, more complex and long lasting, combining interstate and internal conflicts, large-scale displacements of people, mass famine, disruption of economic, political and social institutions, and, in some cases natural disasters. A result has been that a growing percentage of development assistance is being devoted to such complex emergencies. There is a need to avoid the situation in which such a trend has a negative impact on long-term development programmes.

168. The response of the international community to complex humanitarian emergencies has become better coordinated, more effective and more efficient. The United Nations plays a central role in the international response to this daunting challenge, working closely with other international agencies. The creation of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs illustrates the determination of the United Nations to respond more effectively to this task. The coordinating role of this Department among the various relevant agencies should be further strengthened, including by developing formal memoranda of understanding with them.

169. Further progress requires the provision of adequate contingency funds and the establishment of planning and logistical mechanisms to allow a faster and more effective response to complex emergencies.

170. Ways also have to be found to address basic needs during complex emergencies. Issues such as humanitarian needs of displaced persons, which are not under the direct mandate of humanitarian agencies, should also be addressed. Coordination and clear mandates and responsibilities, particularly in the field, are also essential in cases where there is a humanitarian component to a peacekeeping operation. While peacekeeping, civilian, humanitarian, economic, social, and political activities are all part of the integrated process of peace-building, special attention should be given to the observance of the norms and principles of international law, including international humanitarian law.

171. The effective delivery assistance of relevant non-governmental organizations and volunteers in situations of complex emergencies should be further recognized as an important complementary part of the coordinated international, regional and subregional response and incorporated into the programming of actions.

4. Refugees and displaced persons

172. The number of refugees and displaced persons has been rapidly increasing due to a number of complex factors which include, inter alia, armed conflicts, human rights violations, political instability, absolute poverty, social disintegration, lack of resources, and environmental degradation. Most of the refugees are located in and/or move into developing countries, often imposing an enormous burden on those States which already face difficult economic and social conditions. International support for activities of recipient countries for refugees and displaced persons is hence a necessity.

173. Some countries with economies in transition also face burdens related to refugees and displaced persons. There is, therefore, a need for the international community to support them in order to address these problems.

174. The root causes of movements of refugees and displaced persons should be tackled in a coordinated and integrated manner. A durable solution to the plight of the present large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers should be found. Their needs as regards protection in accordance with internationally recognized standards and with national law, as well as assistance, must receive the necessary support. Governments should strive to meet their basic needs, build their self-sufficiency. The conditions for voluntary repatriation of refugees and returnees in safety and dignity, and for ensuring adequate reception arrangements and smooth reintegration, should be created.

H. Participatory approach to development

175. There has been a multiplication of non-state actors in development - those of the civil society - who are playing an increasingly important role in development. The State has overall responsibility for policy formulation in the economic, social and environmental spheres, including the correction of market failures, the provision of public goods, the creation of a favourable enabling environment for the private sector as well as a favourable legal and regulatory framework. It should also encourage effective participation by the private sector and major groups in activities which complement and reinforce national objectives.

176. Participation is an essential component of successful and lasting development. It contributes to equity by involving people living in poverty and other groups in planning and implementation. Participatory decision-making, together with the rule of law, democracy, and transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society is an important requirement for the effectiveness of development policies.

177. Full participation in society should be achieved through the promotion and protection by Governments of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, bearing in mind the interdependent and mutually reinforcing relationship between democracy and respect for human rights. Governments should make public institutions more responsive to people's needs. Therefore, full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the conclusions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action should be promoted.

178. There is a large potential benefit to be derived from increased participation. In order for it to be realized, Governments should establish institutional and legal frameworks and decentralized processes, that allow their people greater involvement in the decisions that affect their lives. This requires that Governments give adequate support to the administration of justice as well as to public administration which should be responsive to the requirements of their people.

179. Governments are encouraged, where appropriate, to decentralize their public institutions and services to a level that, compatible with their overall responsibilities, priorities and objectives, responds properly to local needs and facilitates local participation. To ensure effective decentralization and strengthening of local authorities and their association/networks, Governments, at the appropriate levels, should review and revise, as necessary, legislation to increase local autonomy and participation in decision-making, implementation, and resource mobilization and use, especially with respect to human, technical and financial resources and local enterprise development, within the overall framework of a national economic, social and environmental strategy. Governments, when they consider it appropriate, could work on decentralization programmes with the support of donors and international institutions.

180. The key to participatory development means fulfillingthe potential of people by enlarging their capabilities, and this necessarily implies empowerment of people, enabling them to participate actively in their own development. In order to fulfiltheir potential, people, especially those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged, must participate actively in establishing and maintaining independent organizations

representing their interests, within each country's constitutional framework. Political empowerment is an integral aspect of participatory development.

181. A vigorous civil society is indispensable for popular participation at all levels and an essential component of any successful development strategy. Community organizations, business and workers' organizations, NGOs and self-help groups must be actively involved. Governments should view them as important actors and partners in development. Greater accountability and transparency in such organizations' activities would be helpful in this regard. In countries where the participation of civil society is weak, it should be a major purpose of public policy to strengthen it.

182. Broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making process is also necessary.

I. Actions related to countries in special situations

183. International cooperation for development should take account of countries' development experiences and circumstances in formulating and implementing comprehensive development approaches.

184. Action on many fronts is needed. A combination of grant aid, concessional loans and technical assistance which can contribute to the financing of the necessary economic and social infrastructure, together with strategies designed inter alia to increase exports earnings, attract foreign direct investment and reduce external debt, can provide sufficient conditions for development.

185. The critical situation of Africa and the least developed countries requires that priority should be given to those countries in international cooperation for development and in the allocation of ODA. These countries should implement at the national level structural adjustment policies which take into account social development goals as well as effective development strategies that create a more favourable climate for trade and investment, give priority to human resources development and further promote the development of democratic institutions. These national efforts should be supported by the international community.

1. Africa

186. The critical socio-economic condition in Africa concerns the international community as a whole and requires global partnership and solidarity to address and solve. Although Africa is faced with enormous problems, it also has great potential, both in human and natural resources, for economic growth and development. The obstacles to the socio-economic development of Africa are well known. Tackling these problems and paving the way to accelerated and self-sustaining growth and sustainable development through decisive implementation of commitments and actions have, however, been lacking.

187. The external debt problems of African countries require further attention. The measures taken by the Paris Club, including the Naples terms, should be further implemented in a full, constructive and expeditious manner. Effective, equitable, development oriented and durable solutions have to be found in the problems of external debt and the burden of debt, which continue to impede the socio-economic development of African countries despite measures taken on both a bilateral and multilateral basis to reduce or reschedule their debt.

188. The international community should reaffirm its commitment to give full support to the development efforts of Africa. This requires, inter alia, measures to contribute to durable solutions to the external debt and debt-service problems, to increase foreign direct investment, to enhance national capacity-building, to deal with the shortage of domestic resources for development and to facilitate the integration of the African countries into subregional and regional trade as well as into world trade.

189. The international community should support African countries so that they benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round and to mitigate any adverse effect of the Final Act. It is essential to implement the measures decided upon in the Final Act and the complementary provisions specified in the Marrakesh Agreement, in favour of least developed countries and concerning the possible negative effects of the reform programme on these countries and on the net food-importing developing countries. In this regard, there is urgent need for financial and technical assistance to African countries to enable them to evaluate the impact of the Final Act and to identify and implement adaptive measures to enhance their competitiveness and trade performance in order to benefit from the Uruguay Round. In addition, it is essential to support the efforts of African countries to diversify their economies. New export capacities and opportunities have to be created and diversification across markets and products should be encouraged. The call for financing the preparatory phase of commodity diversification projects and programmes should be pursued. State participants in the African Development Fund and multilateral institutions are urged to pay special attention to the diversification of African commodities and to contribute to the preparatory phase of African diversification projects. In order to support effectively efforts to diversify commodity exports and boost earnings, the international community, particularly the major trading partners, should continue to commit themselves to granting enhanced market access to Africa's exports through substantial reduction in or removal of trade barriers and through preferential arrangements, in accordance with the Uruguay Round Agreements.

190. There is an urgent need for concerted and better coordinated international action on the myriad of adverse socio-economic factors which compound poverty in Africa and hamper its prospects for growth and development. This includes addressing effectively and comprehensively the issues of conflict resolution, including post-conflict peace-building and the continuum from relief to rehabilitation and development; stronger and better coordinated global actions against major diseases that take a heavy toll of human lives; and alleviating the effects of natural disasters through programmes on early warning, preparedness, prevention and mitigation. The international community should also assist African countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty and meet basic human needs.

191. The United Nations system also has a major role to play in coordinating and implementing activities which address the critical situation in Africa, including through the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and the follow-up of the outcome of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development and other related initiatives.

2. Least developed countries

192. Despite the adoption of the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, there has been a decline in real terms of total ODA for LDCs and there has been continued marginalization of these countries, and their number has increased from 41 to 48 without a proportionate increase in support measures despite national and international efforts. Reversing the further marginalization of the least developed countries and achieving their integration in the world economy are essential for their growth and development and pose a major challenge to the international community.

193. In order to succeed, the full support of the international community is required. Appropriate economic and social policies are also required and technical capacity and physical and institutional infrastructure need to be built up. Special support should therefore be given to the least developed countries in their development efforts, in order to facilitate their integration into the world economy, to enable them to participate in and to allow them to fully benefit from the process of globalization and liberalization of trade and the increase in international private resource flows.

194. In view of their limited domestic resources, the least developed countries will continue to need enhanced external financial assistance and other support. Achieving the accepted United Nations target for official development assistance to the least developed countries of 0.15 per cent of donor countries' GNP is particularly urgent. Donor countries which have not met this target should make their best efforts to reach it

as soon as possible, and donor countries which have met the 0.15 per cent target should undertake to reach 0.20 per cent by the year 2000. Further improvements should be made in aid coordination and effectiveness.

195. Many LDCs face serious debt problems and more than half are considered debt distressed. Most of their debt is owed to official creditors, both bilateral and multilateral. The serious debt problems of LDCs necessitate continued efforts in the framework of the international debt strategy. This strategy includes concrete measures to alleviate the debt burden and economic policy measures, which will be critical to the revitalization of growth and development. Those LDCs should continue to benefit from substantial debt relief schemes. Paris Club creditors are invited to continue to implement fully, constructively and expeditiously the very concessional treatment under the Naples terms, and the Bretton Woods institutions are encouraged to expedite the ongoing consideration of ways to address the issue of the multilateral debt, including those concerning the LDCs.

196. The international community should support LDCs so that they benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round and to mitigate any adverse effect of the Final Act. It is essential to implement the measures decided upon in the Final Act and the complementary provisions specified in the Marrakesh Agreement, in favour of the LDCs and concerning the possible negative effects of the reform programme on these countries and on the net food importing developing countries. Urgent steps are needed to provide enhanced market access to major markets for products originating from LDCs. There is also scope for further improvement of the GSP schemes and other supportive measures in favour of LDCs.

197. In 1990, through the adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the international community agreed on measures to revitalize the development of the least developed countries. At the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, and other relevant conferences, agreements and conventions, further commitments have been made to support the efforts of these countries. At the mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries in the 1990s, concrete measures and recommendations were agreed on to implement the Programme of Action. They should be operationalized and implemented as appropriate. The international community must give high priority to the full and timely implementation of the Programme of Action and fulfil all its commitments in favour of the least developed countries.

3. Small island developing States

198. The international community, international organizations and the United Nations system should cooperate in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and of Agenda 21, and support their economic transformation. This requires adequate, predictable, new and additional financial resources, transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including on concessional and preferential terms as mutually agreed, and promoting fair and non-discriminatory trading arrangements. Appropriate exchanges among small island developing States and between them and other States with similar development experiences are also to be encouraged. The GEF should constitute an important channel of assistance to small island developing States in responding to their special needs and vulnerabilities.

199. The sustainable development of small island developing States requires concrete action by the international community to address the constraints to their development outlined in the Programme of Action and in Agenda 21. It also requires a supportive international institutional framework, including a strong monitoring and review role by the Commission on Sustainable Development. Appropriate support should be given to the SIDS/NET and SIDS/TAP programmes, which are important instruments for technical cooperation and for promoting information exchange.

4. Landlocked developing countries

200. Specific action at national, bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels should be taken as a matter of urgency and priority, to address the special development problems and needs of landlocked developing countries. To that end, international support, through appropriate technical cooperation and financial assistance by developed countries and multilateral financial and development institutions is needed to enhance the capacity of the landlocked developing countries to effectively participate in the rapidly globalizing world economy, including global trading, investment and technology transfer processes.

201. Particular emphasis should be given to the cooperative and collaborative efforts of the landlocked and transit developing countries in dealing with the transit problems, inter alia, through improving the transit transport infrastructure facilities and bilateral agreements to govern transit transport operations; development of joint ventures in the area of transit transport; and strengthening of institutions and human resources dealing with transit transport. Active and consistent efforts are called to implement the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between landlocked and transit developing countries and the donor community endorsed by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session. Since most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, their efforts at developing a viable transit infrastructure also need financial and technical support.

5. Countries with economies in transition

202. The international community should continue to give attention to the needs of countries with economies in transition, and support in particular their efforts to integrate into the world economy. A number of international meetings and conferences, including those held under United Nations auspices, have recognized the specific needs of these countries in various areas of development and the necessity to provide them with temporary assistance upon their request aimed at the solution to the most acute problems. Such recommendations should be fully implemented by the international community and the United Nations system. To this end, an appropriate strategy should be defined for strengthening solidarity with these countries, taking into account the need to preserve the United Nations system's high priorities in development, in particular international development cooperation.

J. Means of implementation

203. The effective implementation of this Agenda, as well as of the decisions and commitments reached at the recent series of United Nations global conferences, summits and other meetings, requires the urgent mobilization and more efficient use of resources for development. It is critical to generate the political will to mobilize and make available the necessary resources - public and private, financial and human, national and international - if all States, the United Nations system and the international community as a whole are to mount a full and effective response to this Agenda. In formulating this response, attention has to be given to both the quantitative and the qualitative aspects of development as well as to time-frames for implementation.

1. Mobilization of domestic resources for development

204. All countries should continue to implement policies and measures to mobilize domestic resources according to national strategies and priorities and to achieve an appropriate level of domestic savings. Measures should include the maintenance of sound fiscal and monetary policies, efficient and equitable taxation systems, low budget deficits and an efficient allocation of budgetary resources in which due priority is given to productive expenditure.

205. Political institutions and legal systems that ensure the equitable distribution of domestic resources enhance the effectiveness and flexibility of national policy frameworks. Public expenditures offer significant opportunities for promoting growth and the equitable redistribution of resources.

206. All countries should explore new ways of generating new public and private financial resources, inter alia, through the appropriate reduction of excessive military expenditures, including global military expenditures and the arms trade and investments for arms production and acquisition, taking into consideration national security requirements, so as to allow possible allocation of additional funds for social and economic development.

2. External resources

207. The savings efforts of developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, to generate sufficient domestic savings need to be supplemented by external resources so as to raise investment to the levels necessary for adequate sustained economic growth. New and innovative ideas for generating resources for development should be explored.

(a) External debt

208. The international community, including the international financial institutions, is invited to continue to explore ways of implementing additional and innovative measures to alleviate substantially the debt burdens of developing countries, in particular of the highly indebted low-income countries, in order to help them to achieve sustained economic growth without falling into a new debt crisis.

209. In this context, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative (HIPC) endorsed by the Interim Committee of IMF and the Development Committee of the World Bank and IMF - which is designed to enable eligible heavily indebted poor countries to achieve a sustainable debt situation through coordinated action by all creditors on the basis of adjustment efforts by the debtor countries - is welcomed. It is recognized that the implementation of the Initiative requires additional financial resources from both bilateral and multilateral creditors without affecting the support required for development activities of developing countries. The importance of implementing the Initiative's eligibility criteria flexibly so as to ensure sufficient coverage of the heavily indebted countries is stressed.

210. All the members of the Paris Club are encouraged to implement fully the initiatives which aim at substantially reducing the bilateral component of the debt burden of the poorest and heavily indebted countries and at permitting countries sufficiently advanced in an adjustment strategy to exit from the rescheduling process. To achieve the first aim mentioned above, the Paris Club should continue to apply the Naples terms in a full, expeditious and constructive manner in order to contribute to a durable solution to the debt problems of these countries.

211. Private creditors and, in particular, commercial banks should be encouraged to continue their initiatives and efforts to address the commercial debt of developing countries.

212. The international community should implement fully the appropriate actions identified in the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s concerning the external debt problems of those countries.

213. Multilateral debt accounts for a high proportion of the external debt of a number of heavily indebted developing countries. The international financial institutions are invited to examine further proposals to tackle the problems of a number of developing countries with regard to multilateral debt, taking into account the specific situation of each country. Such proposals need to preserve the preferred creditor status of the multilateral financial institutions, in order to ensure that they can continue to provide concessional financing for development to developing countries.

(b) Official development assistance

214. It is important to reverse the overall decline in ODA flows and to achieve internationally agreed ODA targets as soon as possible. Such assistance should focus on developing countries, with particular priority to Africa and the least developed countries. Some donor countries have achieved or exceeded the

accepted United Nations targets to allocate 0.7 per cent of GNP for overall ODA and 0.15 per cent of GNP for ODA for the least developed countries and are encouraged to continue to do so. Other developed countries reaffirm the commitments undertaken to fulfil as soon as possible these targets. Countries which are in a position to do so should strive to augment their assistance in the framework of development cooperation. Countries should also honour their commitments in Agenda 21 to provide resources to promote sustainable development.

(c) Role and resources of multilateral financial institutions, including regional development banks

215. The multilateral financial institutions should continue to play a major role in development and in promoting the stability of the international financial system. In their responses to the development needs, priorities and specific circumstances of developing countries, the World Bank and IMF should continue to adjust to the wide-ranging changes in global circumstances. Their programmes should respond to the economic and social conditions, concerns and needs of each country, and should also explicitly include social development goals, in particular eradicating poverty, promoting productive employment, enhancing social integration, and supporting people living in poverty and vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of society. To this end, they are urged to increase cooperation with other development activities of the United Nations system. At the same time, both the World Bank and IMF need an enhanced capacity to fulfil their roles effectively. In particular, resources for the International Development Association (IDA) should be replenished adequately and in a timely manner.

216. Regional development banks should continue to play an important role in the financing of development. In this context, the adequate and timely replenishment of their concessional mechanisms is essential. Regional development banks should respond effectively to development priorities.

(d) United Nations financing for development

217. The fulfilment of the United Nations system's role in development and in promoting development cooperation requires resources to be provided on a sound, predictable, continuous and assured basis. The international community should support the development efforts of the United Nations system by providing a substantial increase in resources for operational activities commensurate with the needs of the developing countries and the overall resources of the United Nations. This requires both political commitment by all States and an appropriate balance in terms of resources devoted to all United Nations activities and to development. New approaches to financing the international development cooperation activities undertaken by the United Nations, including innovative funding sources, should continue to be examined.

(e) Private investment flows

218. Special attention should be given by all countries to measures aimed at promoting international investment flows and enhancing their contribution to development. In order to encourage domestic investment and to attract FDI, it is essential to have in place a stable, supportive, effective and transparent legal framework. Intellectual property protection is an essential component of an environment conducive to the creation and international transfer of technology. Investment agreements which signal that investment is valued and that all investors will be treated fairly also promote investment. Governments in the developed countries should facilitate long-term investment flows to developing countries. All countries should take measures to ensure that these flows have a positive impact on development, equitable growth, productive capacity, infrastructure, transfer of technology, eradication of poverty, trade expansion, employment and social programmes.

219. The globalization and growth of financial markets has given rise to the need for improved measures to address the negative effects of the volatility of international capital flows. The prevention of financial crises will require enhanced early warning mechanisms, including improved and effective surveillance of national and international financial market developments. If prevention fails, responding to financial market distress will require enhancing the capacity of multilateral institutions to respond in a quick and coordinated fashion. Financial mechanisms need to be developed for this purpose as well as to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. In this context, the international community should explore ways to broaden

appropriate enhanced cooperation and, where appropriate, coordination of macroeconomic policy among interested countries, monetary and financial authorities and institutions, so as to enhance preventive consultation arrangements between such institutions as a means of promoting a stable international financial environment conducive to economic growth, particularly in developing countries, taking into account the needs of developing countries as well as situations that may have a significant impact on the international financial system.

3. Qualitative aspects of development cooperation

220. The quantitative efforts set out above should be complemented with measures to improve the qualitative aspects of international development cooperation, particularly: a better focus on its distribution; greater national capacities to coordinate national and international resources; improved national ownership of externally financed programmes; international cooperation based on national priorities, involving other development partners, including civil society; and strengthened national capacities to plan for, manage, monitor and evaluate the impact of development cooperation.

221. To translate the Agenda for Development into practical action, it is essential that further steps are taken to enhance United Nations performance in development. Maintaining adequate levels for funding for United Nations operational activities must be coupled with continued improvements in their performance, including monitoring and evaluation and the measurement of output rather than input.

4. Capacity-building

222. If development activities are to have a lasting impact, the future provision of technical cooperation must focus on strengthening national capacities rather than using international expertise, which is often expensive, and procuring equipment tied to aid. The United Nations system needs to scrutinize whether its activities contribute to the promotion of national ownership and capacity-building. Such promotion should be the central objective of its field level activities.

223. The international community, including the United Nations system, shall give preference, wherever possible, to the utilization of competent national experts or, where necessary, of competent experts from within the subregion or region or from other developing countries, in project and programme design, preparation and implementation and to the building of local expertise where it does not exist.

224. National execution should be the principal modality for the implementation of programmes by the United Nations system. The pace at which national execution is utilized by recipient countries must depend upon their needs and capacities. Effective national execution also requires both the United Nations system and other actors involved in the provision of technical assistance to give increased priority to assisting recipient countries in building and/or enhancing the necessary capacity to undertake services at the field level.

225. The need to promote capacity-building and national execution should be taken into account in the design stage of development programmes. Governments will need to take a lead role in identifying such needs at the planning stage and in ensuring that there is adequate national ownership of the programmes as well as in maximizing projects and programmes efficiency by keeping overhead costs to a minimum.

226. The United Nations system must also be prepared to address the capacity requirements of different national development partners, including, in addition to Government, members of civil society, such as the private sector, and NGOs.

227. When building national capacities a number of issues will need to be taken into consideration. These include the articulation of clear development goals, strategies and priorities that are nationally prescribed and supported, where necessary, by external partners; effective performance of functions through a well-trained human resource base; competent organizations and management to effectively utilize and retain

skilled people; a policy and institutional environment that can facilitate the performance and accountability of the public sector and other national institutions; and sensitivity to the overall social, economic and cultural environment in which capacity development is to take place.

228. Technical and economic cooperation among developing countries is an instrument that can make important contributions to building national capacities through exchange of information, experiences and expertise.

III. INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES AND FOLLOW-UP

A. Strengthening of international cooperation for development

229. The international community is entering a new and challenging phase in invigorating the institutions in support of international cooperation for development. Globalization, liberalization and interdependence have become key features of the world economy. In addition, economic growth and progress in a growing interdependent world are influenced by the process of globalization. Particular attention should be accorded to national and international action to broaden the benefits of the process of globalization and to avoid the risk of marginalization of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in the world economy. For developing countries, the most important challenge is the realization of development, which, among others, calls for economic growth and favourable external conditions. International cooperation for development is more than ever acknowledged as a necessity that derives from recognized mutual interest. Therefore, it is necessary that such cooperation be strengthened. In this effort the United Nations occupies a central position and key role.

230. The United Nations system has a crucial role to play in international cooperation for revitalizing development. In this regard, the United Nations has convened a number of global conferences on major issues. From these conferences, a consensus has emerged on a multidimensional, comprehensive and integrated approach to development which recognizes, among others, that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development. Fulfilling the goals and commitments reached at major international conferences, particularly on international cooperation for development, is essential if development is to materialize to its fullest extent and in all its facets. There is, therefore, a need to revitalize the system of international cooperation for development which plays an important role in realizing these goals and commitments.

231. Among the many actors in international development, the United Nations, because of its unique universal character and impartiality and because of its physical presence in many parts of the world, plays a central role in promoting international development cooperation. Through this Agenda, recommendations are made for a stronger, more effective and efficient United Nations so that it and the United Nations system as a whole can contribute better to development in all countries, in particular the developing countries, through the strengthening of its role in all relevant fields of international development cooperation. Institutional issues must, therefore, be addressed while safeguarding the transparent, democratic and truly universal character of the Organization and taking into account the overall ongoing processes of reform of the United Nations.

B. Role of the United Nations in development

232. In accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization aims at the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principles of sovereign equality of all its Members, equal rights and self-determination of peoples and at achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character. The role and functions of the United Nations in international economic and social cooperation, as defined in the Charter and as further elaborated in various international agreements, including in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, range wide and deep and should be fulfilled.

233. Among the key characteristics of the United Nations are its universal membership and comprehensive mandate. The United Nations occupies a unique position for addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of the globalization of the world economy and deepening interdependence among nations. It must play a central and more active and effective role in promoting international cooperation for development and providing policy guidance on global development issues. The responsibilities of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields should be fulfilled, taking into account the importance of its activities in these spheres vis-à-vis those in other fields.

234. The United Nations constitutes a unique forum for building international consensus on global priorities for which there exists no substitute. Forging consensus and commitments through, inter alia, various international conferences, on international economic, social and related issues is one of the most important functions of the United Nations system. To this end, the capacity of the United Nations and its various bodies to undertake analytical and policy-oriented work in the economic and social fields must be fully utilized.

235. The United Nations is also singularly well placed to forge international consensus in the field of development through intergovernmental processes and instruments. Furthermore, the United Nations plays a prominent role in raising public awareness and in promoting and advocating internationally agreed principles and commitments, and their implementation, in this context. It also implements concrete programmes which aim to respond to developmental and humanitarian needs and to promote social justice and the protection of the environment through its activities at the field level and through the collection and dissemination of information.

236. The United Nations has the unique mandate to address issues of peace and development in an integrated manner. In addition, the United Nations has a vital role to play in mobilizing the international community to respond in a comprehensive and coordinated way to rehabilitation and reconstruction but also to longer-term development needs in connection with humanitarian emergency situations. At the same time, a balance should be ensured between these activities and the Organization's consideration of and actions on development issues.

237. The United Nations, in cooperation with the Bretton Woods institutions, other bodies of the United Nations system, including its specialized agencies, and the World Trade Organization (WTO), has a key role in fostering greater coherence, complementarity and coordination in economic policy-making at the global level, including, inter alia, macroeconomic policy issues, and in ensuring the principles of transparency and effective participation and representation, as well as the effective implementation of internationally agreed policies and goals. In this context, the respective competencies of these institutions should be taken into account.

238. An important feature of the United Nations is its operational activities for development in the field. Their fundamental characteristics should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary, and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the needs of the developing countries in a flexible manner. The United Nations development system should take into account the specific needs and requirements of the countries with economies in transition and other recipient countries. Furthermore, because of its mandate, the Organization is well suited to promote a balanced approach to development. Therefore, the challenge for the United Nations and its funds and programmes is to effectively support Governments, particularly those of the developing countries, in their efforts to address increasingly complex issues of development in an interdependent world.

239. The Organization will become more effective and relevant in responding to the needs of the Member States only as a result of ensuring adequate and predictable funding; high-quality performance in the field of international cooperation for development; transparency and full accountability to its Member States; revitalization of its institutional structures; avoidance of overlapping and duplication; and responsiveness to changing conditions and trends.

240. There is a need for a clear relationship between the policy work of the United Nations and its operational role.

C. Enhancing the role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system in development

241. Over the past 50 years the United Nations system has grown and expanded in the economic, social and related sectors. Through its activities the system has contributed significantly to the development process. The Organization should respond more effectively to changing development needs particularly to the needs of enhancing international cooperation for development and promoting the development of the developing countries. Strengthening system-wide coordination of activities and institutions will contribute to enhancing the role, capacity, effectiveness, and efficiency of the United Nations system in development. In this context, building collaboration between national Governments, regional and other multilateral agencies in support of country driven processes should be taken into account.

242. Essential to improving the coordination and focus of the United Nations system's development activities is to ensure that it is guided by a clear set of priorities and strategies identified by the General Assembly, with the support of the Economic and Social Council, and that incorporate the outcomes of recent major international conferences. Also essential is that the Council has the capacity to fulfil its role in overall coordination in the economic, social and related sectors, and in guidance of operational activities.

243. Efforts are needed to continue the process of enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, the Council and its subsidiary bodies, the United Nations Secretariat, and other parts of the United Nations system as well as the framework for operational activities. Furthermore, achieving greater coordination, coherence and complementarity among related activities and/or improving linkages between them will also contribute to strengthening the United Nations system's organizational structure.

244. Ensuring complementarity and avoiding overlapping and duplication of work between the Assembly and the Council, including its functional commissions, is of particular importance for an effective and coordinated follow-up of major United Nations conferences.

1. General Assembly

245. The General Assembly is the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policies in the economic, social and related fields, and the main forum where Governments pursue the development dialogue in its political context. This dialogue aims at both promoting an integrated view of matters relating to the economic, social and related fields, thus fostering the deeper political understanding needed for enhanced international development cooperation, and at generating impulses for action and launching initiatives. The Assembly should exert greater policy leadership on development issues inasmuch as the Charter of the United Nations provides the Assembly with broad mandates concerning these issues.

246. Measures have to be identified to enhance the ability of the debate in the General Assembly to generate substantive solutions to specific policy problems and to take an integrated approach to development. To facilitate discussion based on an integrated approach to development issues, the possibility should be explored of choosing a principal theme or themes in order to focus substantive debate under each "cluster" in the agenda without prejudice to the right of delegations to raise any other specific issue in the debates.

247. In the strengthening and revitalization of the Assembly, this body should consider, in the context of all its main Committees, promoting the use of innovative mechanisms, in accordance with its rules of procedure, such as panel discussions with delegations and interactive debates with the active participation of Secretariat and agency representatives as well as outside experts.

248. Better use should be made of the forum of the Assembly to deal with major economic, social and related issues. The Assembly has the overall responsibility for ensuring the implementation of the results of United Nations conferences and facilitating and reviewing progress achieved. In this context, the Assembly should provide policy guidance and carry out on a periodic basis an overall review of the implementation of

the outcomes of the conferences. Such conferences should be complementary to the Assembly's in-depth consideration of major issues of concern to the international community.

249. At the same time, for the Assembly to fully perform its Charter role measures also have to be taken in addition to the strengthening of the Assembly itself and to ensure that priorities set by the Assembly are fully implemented and followed up by the entire United Nations system. The policy guidance role of the Assembly in promoting international cooperation to solving international problems of an economic and social character should be fully exercised in all areas of development, including macroeconomic issues.

250. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD),as a principal organ of the Assembly has a contribution to make to strengthening policy-oriented debates in the Second Committee.

2. Economic and Social Council

251. In accordance with relevant provisions of the Charter, the Economic and Social Council must continue to strengthen its role as the central mechanism for coordination of the United Nations system and its specialized agencies and supervision of subsidiary bodies, in particular its functional commissions in the economic and social fields. The ongoing efforts to reform the Council call for more effective procedures and review of its work programme and working methods and should result in an increased capacity of the Council to provide overall guidance, monitor and coordinate the United Nations development system. These reforms should be allowed to take root and be built upon.

252. In this context, the Council should:

(a) Consider, in a high-level segment with ministerial participation, major issues for international cooperation in the economic, social and related fields. The high-level segment should be used for improving the synergy between the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system. In doing so, the Council should also contribute towards enhancing the interaction between the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and WTO;

(b) Ensure a coordinated follow-up to the implementation of major United Nations conferences through its subsidiary machinery and providing overall guidance and coordination to the United Nations system as a whole in the economic, social and related fields. A strengthened coordination function also requires a closer interaction between the Council and the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), which should include in its reports to the Council action-oriented recommendations to improve United Nations system-wide coordination on issues for consideration by the Council;

(c) Fully exercise its role as the overall coordinating body of all United Nations development funds and programmes. This should include providing guidance to the Executive Boards of funds and programmes and monitor the implementation of General Assembly policies and guidelines, including operational aspects of the follow-up of major United Nations conferences. The Council should promote greater coherence and closer interaction between the work of its subsidiary bodies and the work of the United Nations funds and programmes;

(d) Encourage its subsidiary bodies to improve their working methods as it has been mandated by the Assembly;

(e) In the context of its general segment, whose primary function is that of an action-oriented review of the activities, reports and recommendations of its subsidiary bodies, avoid a repetition of the debates held in those bodies and focus attention on major policy issues that require a prioritized and coordinated response from the United Nations system as a whole.

253. The Bureau of the Council should play an active role by meeting regularly, including by convening open-ended informal consultations of the Council. The Bureau shall brief the Council on its deliberations and shall not have the authority to make decisions on any substantive matters. The Bureau should be encouraged to continue its role as facilitator.

(a) Subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council

254. The Council should fully exercise its authority vis-à-vis its subsidiary bodies. Better guidance by the Council to its functional commissions and expert groups and bodies is particularly important. The functional commissions should in a coordinated way be able to give the best possible support to the Council in its role of providing overall coordination and guidance and in the follow-up of major United Nations conferences. It is therefore crucial to ensure that these commissions, groups and bodies can effectively serve as catalysts for action.

255. In the case of the functional commissions with primary responsibility for the follow-up and review of the implementation of a major conference, the Council shall ensure the harmonization and coordination of their agendas and work programmes by promoting a clearer division of labour among them and providing clear policy guidance to them. Within their respective mandates, functional commissions should focus on the core issues relating to the Conference for which they are responsible and obtain inputs from other relevant bodies on related issues.

256. The Council shall undertake a review of its functional commissions, expert groups and bodies as mandated by the relevant sections of annex I to General Assembly resolution 50/227. Following this review, which the Council should complete by the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, the Council should continue to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of its subsidiary bodies.

(b) Regional commissions

257. The regional commissions play an important role in bringing the work of the United Nations closer to specific development situations and concerns of countries and regions. This would include fostering economic cooperation, economic integration and economic development, by providing the Assembly, through the Council, with substantive analytical and policy oriented work, and in assisting countries in each region in the implementation and monitoring of recommendations of conferences as well as other commitments. The United Nations should also give a stronger focus to regional problems and prospects in the socio-economic fields in a cost-effective manner. For this purpose, the regional commissions should be more fully utilized, in accordance with their respective mandates. In this context, the results of the review mandated by the Assembly should be taken into account. The Council shall ensure the active participation of the regional commissions in its examination of the follow-up of major conferences. The Council shall also encourage the regional commissions, under the guidance of their member States, to continue to undertake their own management and functional assessment for adjusting their priorities, mandates, tasks and structures taking into account that numerous other regional institutions have been created.

3. United Nations funds and programmes

258. United Nations funds and programmes are important vehicles for advancing development cooperation. There is need for a substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, which should be addressed urgently and expeditiously. Innovative sources of funding could be an additional element for the provision of resources for operational activities for development. The urgent and specific needs of the low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries, should receive priority allocation of grant resources of programmes and projects provided through the funds and programmes.

259. The United Nations operational activities for development should be implemented by the funds and programmes in accordance with Assembly resolutions adopted, particularly in the context of the triennial policy review of operational activities. The Council should provide overall guidance to the funds and

programmes in accordance with policies and priorities formulated by the Assembly. The funds and programmes should build capacities for national execution in recipient countries and should seek out, as appropriate, expertise of the specialized agencies with a view to improving the quality of services and carry out cooperation activities more effectively and efficiently. Memoranda of Understanding that clearly outline individual responsibilities and areas of cooperation have proved useful and should be encouraged between related funds, programmes and specialized agencies.

260. The roles of the funds and programmes should be periodically reviewed with a view to ensuring their responsiveness to the needs of Member States and improving the quality and impact of the United Nations operational activities. The efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the operational activities of the United Nations system must be enhanced by, inter alia, a substantial increase in their funding on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, as well as through the full implementation of relevant Assembly resolutions. At the same time, operational activities should be country-driven, carried out for the benefit of recipient countries at their request and in accordance with their own policies and priorities.

261. The United Nations system has made a serious effort to improve the impact of its development assistance at the country level. Efforts have been and continue to be made to improve the functioning of funds and programmes at the country and headquarters levels. However, further simplification and harmonization of rules of procedure used by the United Nations development system in its operational activities is called for, in particular by the promotion of greater consistency in the presentation of budgets at the headquarters level, as well as in sharing administrative systems and services in the field, where possible, and in developing common databases in consultation with national Governments. The country programming cycles of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF should also be harmonized.

262. National plans and priorities constitute the only viable frame of reference for the national programming of operational activities within the United Nations system, which should be country-driven. In this context, individual mandates and complementarities of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations development system should be taken into account. Also, the country strategy note - which remains a voluntary initiative of the recipient countries - should be formulated by interested recipient countries with the assistance of and in cooperation with the United Nations system, under the leadership of the resident coordinator, in all recipient countries where the Government so decides. Reform efforts, in accordance with relevant Assembly resolutions, should aim at, inter alia, enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the delivery of United Nations assistance at the country level including through the resident coordinator system. The Secretary-General, in support of the intergovernmental process, has an important role to play in this respect. The resident coordinator, in full consultation with Governments, should facilitate a coherent and coordinated United Nations follow-up to major international conferences at the field level.

4. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

263. UNCTAD is the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. Having a comparative advantage in tackling trade-related development issues, UNCTAD should continue to facilitate the integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in a complementary manner with WTO and to promote development through trade and investment in cooperation and coordination with the International Trade Centre, relevant institutions of the United Nations system and other international organizations.

264. UNCTAD, as part of the United Nations system and as a contributor to its revitalization, has adopted far-reaching reforms, as embodied in the Midrand Declaration and the document entitled "A Partnership for Growth and Development" (see TD/377), adopted by consensus at the ninth session of the Conference, thus adapting itself to new economic and institutional modalities created by the process of globalization, the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations agreements and the creation of WTO. These reforms should be implemented, take root and be built upon, in accordance with the decisions taken at the ninth session of the Conference.

265. The efforts of UNCTAD to facilitate the integration of developing countries, in particular the least developed, particularly those in Africa, into the global economy and the international trading system are important for the successful implementation of the Agenda for Development. The tenth session of the Conference, to be held in Thailand in the year 2000, should provide an opportunity to assess progress made and to advance the global partnership for growth and development.

5. Specialized agencies of the United Nations system

266. Specialized agencies as defined in chapter IX of the Charter play a vital role in furthering the implementation of various aspects of the global consensus on international cooperation for development and in promoting and securing the international cooperation needed. Activities, priorities and basic programmes of specialized agencies should be periodically assessed in order to ensure that they remain relevant to the interests of their Member States. In accordance with Article 58 of the Charter, the Organization shall make recommendations for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies. The Secretary-General is invited to make recommendations thereon.

267. Mechanisms should be elaborated to enable the Council, within its mandate, to provide guidance to the specialized agencies and to transmit institutional priorities as formulated by the Assembly. The specialized agencies and the United Nations funds and programmes should engage in a focused dialogue with the Council with a view to identifying how their activities can be adjusted in response to such priorities. The Council should also provide appropriate recommendations in order to ensure coherence and complementarity of efforts of all bodies, taking into account the role of the funds and programmes.

268. Efforts are also called for to enhance the transparency of the operations of the agencies. Cooperation and coordination on themes of common interest among the specialized agencies, and where appropriate between these agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system need to be strengthened. The effectiveness and efficiency of activities of the Council also could be improved by increasing interaction with specialized agencies, including the provision of regular reports to the Assembly, through the Council, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter. In this regard, it will be essential to effectively monitor the follow-up of the conclusions of the Council by the different entities of the United Nations system.

269. Cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system in providing effective support in the field of industrial development is essential. In this context, the ongoing process of reform and revitalization pursued by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) should lead to better defining and enhancing its role and to raising the relevance, effectiveness and impact of the activities of the United Nations system in the field of industrial development in line with the priorities of its member states.

6. Secretariat

270. The structure and functioning of the Secretariat and the support services that it provides in the economic, social and related fields are important and must be strengthened and improved in order to increase the effectiveness of the United Nations in the field of development. They cannot be considered in isolation from the overall management structure, desired lines of authority and decision-making processes of the Organization. In particular, a dispersion of efforts and resources leading to unnecessary overlapping of responsibilities and fragmentation of the decision-making processes in the Secretariat should be avoided. Furthermore, the relationship of the Secretary-General with the specialized agencies is crucial and needs to be further enhanced.

271. Ways and means should be explored in accordance with priorities set by the Assembly to reallocate the savings resulting from reform and improved overall cost effectiveness with a view to strengthening United Nations development activities. The Secretary-General is requested to present proposals to this end.

272. It is acknowledged that the Secretary-General, as the chief administrative officer of the Organization, is responsible for the functioning of the Secretariat in accordance with the Charter. The restructuring of the

Secretariat is a vital part of the revitalization of the United Nations role in the economic, social and related fields. In order for the United Nations to act more effectively in support of development with greater coherence, coordination and complementarity, further reform should be aimed at:

(a) Ensuring a comprehensive and effective implementation of the objectives of the Agenda for Development and of the relevant objectives of the Charter and the mandates entrusted by the policy-making organs;

(b) Rationalizing the structure of the Secretariat in such manner that would improve the effectiveness and efficiency of its work, avoid duplication, meet the requirements of Member States, and ensure accountability in its operations;

(c) Ensuring transparency and effective implementation of recruitment procedures, principles and practices; ensuring the exclusively international character of the staff; and securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity as well as a more effective application of the principles governing the recruitment of staff, including recruitment on as wide a geographical basis as possible, respecting the relevant articles of the Charter;

(d) Ensuring that any reorganization of the economic and social departments of the Secretariat and other proposals for Secretariat reform preserve and promote the independence, intellectual diversity and visibility of the United Nations in policy analysis;

(e) Ensuring that initiatives for Secretariat reform consider measures already adopted and allow for these to take root. The restructuring of the Secretariat should be conducted in a manner that effectively meets the requirements of Member States and takes fully into account the development concerns of all Member States, in particular of the developing countries;

(f) Giving consideration to decentralization, as appropriate, from headquarters to the regional and field levels, including the regional commissions, in order to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to provide stronger focus on regional problems and prospects in a cost-effective manner, taking into consideration the ongoing process of restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields.

7. Reporting

273. Reports to intergovernmental bodies should be concise and action-oriented. Where necessary, intergovernmental bodies should make efforts to rationalize and simplify reporting procedures. All documentation should be provided within the specified timetables and in all official United Nations languages.

8. Inter-agency coordination

274. Better inter-agency coordination within the system is essential to support the goals of the Agenda for Development. This includes coordination and cooperation on themes of common interest and identification of respective strengths and weaknesses in order to ensure a more effective and efficient role of the United Nations system while taking into account respective mandates. In this context, ACC should have an enhanced function for inter-agency coordination purposes for the United Nations system. ACC should bring system-wide coordination issues to the attention of the Council and make recommendations thereon. Further efforts should be made to enhance the role of ACC and its standing committees to ensure that the United Nations system operates in a coherent, coordinated and complementary manner. A systematic exchange of information and an appropriate distribution of tasks should be ensured within the ACC machinery and with any specific inter-agency mechanism, including ad hoc inter-agency thematic task forces set up in the context of the follow-up to conferences. Full information for the Member States on the work of ACC should be made available and a wider distribution of the report of ACC should be pursued.

9. Participation of non-governmental organizations and other major groups

275. The constructive contribution of non-governmental organizations and other major groups, including the private sector, to the implementation of the Agenda for Development should be encouraged. The existing mechanisms for the involvement and participation of non-governmental organizations in United Nations activities should be fully utilized and, as appropriate, be further improved, taking into account the relevant rules of procedure of the United Nations and the outcome of the High-level Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on the Strengthening of the United Nations System.

D. Interaction between the United Nations and other multilateral development institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization

276. Increased interaction and cooperation between the United Nations and the multilateral development institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions and WTO, are necessary to respond to the challenges of development. Also, cooperative working relations between the United Nations and other international organizations should be strengthened. Examples of such cooperation already exist. There is a need to develop further effective and innovative approaches to this interaction and cooperation.

277. The strengthening of collaboration between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions requires an integrated approach, encompassing a closer policy dialogue at the intergovernmental level on relevant areas of international development policy issues taking into account their respective competencies. In support of this dialogue, closer relationships should be developed between the United Nations, through the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank/IMF Development Committee. In this regard, the Assembly should play a more active role in global economic matters including the deliberations on macroeconomic issues.

278. International financial and trade institutions should be more closely involved in the preparations and deliberations, when appropriate, of the high-level segment of the Council. Their heads should actively contribute to the discussion on the topic chosen for that segment. Decisions already taken by the Council to ensure their closer involvement, through, *inter alia*, furnishing relevant reports should be implemented.

279. A further opportunity to consider global issues of high priority and to identify areas where these institutions can mutually support their respective efforts in promoting development could be provided by high-level special meetings of the Council.

280. Concrete modalities for strengthening the exchange of information on development issues between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions should be explored. Similar modalities may also be explored with WTO. Joint meetings between the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes, WTO, and the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant organizations on selected themes, including those identified by the Assembly, should be encouraged.

281. At the field level, the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions, acting in accordance to their respective mandates, should cooperate more closely, including in the areas of capacity-building and field operations, in accordance with priorities determined by recipient countries. Under the overall guidance of national Governments, they should expand, whenever appropriate, their collaboration in co-financing of field programmes and projects and explore innovative ways to combine and maximize their resources. In consultation and agreement with Governments, efforts should be made to promote complementarity between the country strategy notes, where they exist, the policy framework papers of the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Bank's country assistance strategies. In channelling financial and technical assistance through multilateral development finance institutions, donor countries are encouraged to take into account the respective roles and functions of the United Nations programmes and funds and the Bretton Woods institutions so as to ensure the complementarity of development assistance.

282. In post-emergency situations, the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions must support the transition from emergency to rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term development. To this end, coordination between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions should be improved.

E. Follow-up and implementation

283. The intergovernmental follow-up of the Agenda for Development shall be undertaken by the General Assembly as the highest intergovernmental mechanism and the principal policy-making and appraisal organ of the United Nations system. The Assembly has called for the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership which should serve as an important mechanism through which the intergovernmental follow-up and assessment of this Agenda and its implementation will be conducted. Such dialogue should also be used as an opportunity to discuss new and emerging issues concerning international cooperation for development.

284. The Economic and Social Council, within its mandate, shall assist the Assembly in overseeing United Nations system-wide implementation of the Agenda and by providing recommendations in this regard. At the same time, Governments as well as regional economic integration organizations have an important role to play at their respective levels in the follow-up of the Agenda.

285. Closely related to the follow-up and implementation of this Agenda is the urgent need for an integrated, interrelated and coherent implementation and follow-up at the national, subregional, regional, and international levels of the recommendations and commitments of recent United Nations major conferences and agreements on development. The progress of the implementation of the results of those conferences should be reviewed so as to identify progress achieved as well as obstacles hindering their full and effective implementation. While Governments have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the declarations and programmes of action adopted by international conferences, the international community, in particular the United Nations system, including the multilateral and regional financial institutions has an important role in contributing to, assisting in, facilitating, and reviewing the progress of the implementation of the results of those conferences at all levels and in further promoting their goals and objectives.

286. A strong political commitment by the international community is needed to implement a strengthened international cooperation for development as reflected in this Agenda. The mobilization of domestic and international financial resources for development from all sources is an essential component for the comprehensive and effective implementation of this Agenda. In this connection, enhanced efforts should be made for the mobilization and provision of new and additional financial resources for the development of developing countries. Despite an increase in private capital flows, official development assistance remains an essential source of external funding. Developed countries reaffirm the commitments undertaken to fulfil as soon as possible the agreed United Nations targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product (GNP) for overall official development assistance (ODA) and of 0.15 per cent of GNP for ODA for the least developed countries. Donor countries that have met the 0.15 per cent target will seek to undertake to reach 0.20 per cent. Further efforts are also needed to improve the effectiveness of ODA and to focus such aid on the poorest countries.

287. Due consideration should be given to modalities for conducting an intergovernmental dialogue on the financing of development, taking into account the recommendation by the Secretary-General.

51/241 Strengthening of the United Nations system

Date: 31 July 1997 Meeting: 105
Adopted without a vote Report: A/51/24, para. 15

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/252 of 14 September 1995, by which it established the Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System,

Recalling in particular paragraph 2 of resolution 49/252,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System,

1. *Adopts* the text contained in the annex to the present resolution for implementation effective from 1 January 1998;

2. *Calls upon* the relevant intergovernmental bodies to implement fully the measures specified in the text to strengthen the work of the United Nations system, in particular of the General Assembly and the Secretariat;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as part of his ongoing efforts to improve the functioning of the Organization, to implement fully those measures in the text that are within his competence;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Invites* other principal organs, specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system to implement the measures for strengthening the system that are specified in the text and that are within their respective areas of competence, as appropriate;

6. *Decides* that the Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System has completed its work as mandated in resolution 49/252.

51/242 Supplement to an Agenda for Peace

Date: 15 September 1997 Meeting: 107
Adopted without a vote Draft: A/51/L.78

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace" [29] and "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", [30]

Reaffirming its resolutions 4/120 A of 18 December 1992 and 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Reaffirming also other resolutions adopted by the General Assembly concerning various aspects of an Agenda for Peace and of the Supplement to an Agenda for Peace,

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[29] A/47/277-S/24111.

[30] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

Taking note of the statement on the Supplement to an Agenda for Peace made by the President of the Security Council on 22 February 1995,[31] as well as the other statements by the President of the Security Council on an Agenda for Peace,

Recalling the views expressed by Member States on an Agenda for Peace and the Supplement to an Agenda for Peace since the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly,

1. Adopts the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations annexed to the present resolution;

2. Notes the progress made in the areas of post-conflict peace-building and preventive diplomacy and peacemaking;

3. Requests the President of the General Assembly to consult on the possibility of continuing the activities of the Informal Open-Ended Working Group on an Agenda for Peace in the areas of post-conflict peace-building and preventive diplomacy and peacemaking on the basis of the work already accomplished in these areas and with a view to concluding its work.

ANNEX I

Coordination

I. COORDINATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND MEMBER STATES

1. The States that constitute the United Nations membership have a central role to play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, including through their participation in and support for United Nations efforts to those ends, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The General Assembly underlines the need to strengthen the role of the Assembly in improving coordination, in accordance with its role and responsibilities under the Charter. Governments are responsible for the financing and provision of personnel, equipment and other support to mandated United Nations efforts to maintain international peace and security, whether through preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping or peace-building. Coordination of efforts and sharing of information between the United Nations and Member States is therefore of fundamental importance.

2. Transparency, communication and consultation between the United Nations and Member States is vital in the coordination of decisions and activities under the Charter aimed at maintaining and enhancing international peace and security. Governments should ensure that their policies in relation to the various parts and agencies of the United Nations system are consistent and in accordance with those aims, while the United Nations must ensure that its activities are in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter, and that States are kept fully informed, and are supportive, of the United Nations efforts.

3. Suitable arrangements for regular and timely consultations between members of the Security Council, assisted by the Secretariat, and States contributing troops to peacekeeping operations, as well as prospective troop contributors, are essential in enhancing transparency and coordination between the United Nations and Member States. Such consultations provide troop-contributing States with a channel for communication and for ensuring that their views are taken into consideration before decisions are made by the Council. The General Assembly welcomes the establishment of this consultation mechanism, which should remain under review with the aim of improving it further so as to strengthen the support for and the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations. In this connection, the Assembly stresses the importance of respecting the principles agreed upon in the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and endorsed unanimously by the General Assembly.

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[31] S/PRST/1995/9.

4. Among other possible forms of coordination between the United Nations and Member States is the support and assistance given to the Secretary-General by individual States or informal groups of Member States, created on an ad hoc basis, with respect to his efforts in the area of the maintenance of international peace and security. Operating within the framework of the Charter, groups such as the "Friends of the Secretary-General" can be resorted to whenever feasible, and can be considered as a valuable tool for the Secretary-General in his efforts, supporting the mandate entrusted to him by relevant United Nations bodies. There should be contact with the concerned State or States, and care should be taken to ensure the necessary information and transparency in relation to other Member States and to avoid duplication or overlapping of efforts.

II. COORDINATION WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

5. In order to improve the capacity of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, particularly in conflict prevention and resolution, the General Assembly stresses the need to ensure an integrated approach to considering, planning and conducting activities in the sphere of peace in all their aspects, through all phases of a potential or actual conflict to post-conflict peace-building, at the various levels within the United Nations system. In coordinating such activities, the distinct mandates, functions and impartiality of the various United Nations entities involved should be respected. On the understanding that action to secure global peace, security and stability will be futile unless the economic and social needs of people are addressed. The Assembly also stresses the need to strengthen coordination with those departments, agencies and bodies responsible for development activities, in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system for development.

A. Coordination within the United Nations Secretariat

6. Within the Secretariat in New York, coordination is required between and among all the various departments involved in peacemaking, as well as in peace-building activities and peacekeeping operations which can be multifunctional, so that they function as an integrated whole under the authority of the Secretary-General. The General Assembly notes that the Secretary-General has entrusted the main responsibility in this regard to the Task Force on United Nations Operations and interdepartmental groups at the working level on each major conflict where the United Nations is playing a peacemaking or peacekeeping role. The Assembly welcomes these moves to strengthen coordination, and emphasizes the requirement for transparency. Efforts should inter alia be made to further harmonize the interaction between operational units within the Secretariat so as to avoid duplication in similar fields of action.

7. The General Assembly notes the work being done within the Framework for Coordination mechanism to ensure that the pertinent departments of the Secretariat coordinate their respective activities in the planning and implementing of such operations, through sharing of information, consultations and joint action. The Assembly furthermore notes that an important element of the Framework for Coordination is the provision for staff-level consultations by the relevant departments and other parts of the Organization to undertake joint analyses and to formulate joint recommendations. The Assembly welcomes the establishment of a standing interdepartmental framework oversight group to support and ensure the initiation of such consultations, and encourages the implementation, further development and improvement of the framework for coordination mechanism.

B. Coordination within the United Nations system as a whole

8. The responsibilities involved in peacemaking, as well as in peace-building activities and peacekeeping operations which can be multifunctional, transcend the competence and expertise of any one department, programme, fund, office or agency of the United Nations. Short-term and long-term programmes need to be planned and implemented in a coordinated way in order to consolidate peace and development. Coordination is therefore required within the United Nations system as a whole and between United Nations Headquarters and the head offices of United Nations funds, programmes, offices and agencies. In this

regard, the General Assembly would encourage improved coordination of efforts, for example the establishment of coordination procedures between the United Nations and other agencies involved, to facilitate and coordinate measures to contribute to the prevention of conflicts as well as the transition from peacekeeping to peace-building. The Assembly would encourage representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and other relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, as well as the Bretton Woods institutions, to meet and work together to develop arrangements that would ensure coordination and increased cooperation with respect to the provision of assistance to institution-building and social and economic development. The aim should be to develop a network for programme coordination, involving the United Nations system, bilateral donors and, whenever appropriate, non-governmental organizations, both at headquarters and in the regional and field offices.

9. The General Assembly welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General to make more effective the Administrative Committee on Coordination, which periodically brings together the heads of the specialized agencies, to achieve better coordination of the activities of the various United Nations bodies, including towards the consolidation of peace and security. The Assembly also supports the role of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee in ensuring a coordinated and timely response to the humanitarian needs arising in complex emergencies.

C. Coordination in the field

10. The General Assembly notes that the composition and administration of United Nations operations in the field vary considerably from one country situation to another, depending upon the political security and humanitarian dimensions of a particular crisis. In certain cases, including where the Security Council has authorized a peacekeeping operation, the Secretary-General may appoint a Special Representative. The Special Representative, working under the operational control of the Secretary-General, exercises on his behalf clearly defined authority over all the mission components. To strengthen cohesion and effective control of the military component of multifunctional peacekeeping operations, which is the central and fundamental part of such operations, the Assembly would stress the necessity of establishing and respecting clear lines of military command, as well as open channels of communication and sharing of information between the field and United Nations Headquarters, and coordinated guidance from United Nations Headquarters to the field. The Assembly underlines the need to adhere to United Nations mandates, and to respect United Nations operational control and the unity of command in United Nations peacekeeping operations. In peacekeeping operations which include humanitarian elements, a field-based humanitarian coordinator who works under the overall authority of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General may be appointed. The Assembly considers it essential that all agencies and programmes active in the field extend their full cooperation to the Special Representative, and encourages the efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure this. The Assembly notes the important role that the United Nations Resident Coordinator can play in coordinating United Nations activities in post-conflict peace-building. Furthermore, the Assembly would refer to the possibility of nominating a United Nations special coordinator while numerous agencies and programmes are working in the field during the period of transition to peace, even when there is no peacekeeping operation.

III. COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS OR AGENCIES

11. The General Assembly stresses that, on the subject of cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies, the relevant tasks and responsibilities should be carried out with full respect for the provisions of Chapter VIIIof the Charter, relevant decisions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, as well as the respective mandates of regional arrangements or agencies and the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/57 of 9 December 1994.

12. The General Assembly considers that practical cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements and agencies, including the recognition of the variety of mandates, scope and composition of regional arrangements or agencies, has been and can be developed further through a number of means, including consultation by working-level contacts and high-level meetings, diplomatic and operational support, staff exchanges, and joint and cooperative operations. The Assembly notes the proposals that the Secretary-General has made in respect of Africa in his report on improving preparedness for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,[32] and encourages him to pursue consultations with the Organization of African Unity on the matter.

13. While recalling its resolution 49/57, the General Assembly also notes the principles identified by the Secretary-General upon which cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies should be based, in particular the primacy of the United Nations as set out in the Charter, the defined and agreed division of labour, and consistency by members of regional arrangements or agencies. The Assembly considers it important to develop further such principles, in cooperation with regional arrangements or agencies. The Assembly also agrees with the Secretary-General that, given the varied nature of regional arrangements or agencies, establishment of a universal model for their relationship with the United Nations would not be appropriate.

14. The General Assembly notes the meetings organized and arranged by the Secretary-General with regional arrangements or agencies, most recently in February 1996, and would encourage the continuation and further development of this practice on a regular basis. The Assembly underlines the importance of informing it about such meetings.

IV. COOPERATION AND DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

15. Non-governmental organizations can play an important role in support of United Nations activities. Appropriate cooperation and dialogue between the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations can contribute to ensuring that the efforts of those organizations are consistent with, and properly coordinated with, the activities and objectives of the United Nations. Such coordination should not compromise the impartiality of the United Nations or the non-governmental nature of the organizations.

ANNEX II

Question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations

1. An effectively implemented regime of collective Security Council sanctions can operate as a useful international policy tool in the graduate response to threats to international peace and security. As Security Council action under Chapter VIIof the Charter of the United Nations, sanctions are a matter of the utmost seriousness and concern. Sanctions should be resorted to only with the utmost caution, when other peaceful options provided by the Charter are inadequate. The Security Council should give as thorough consideration as possible to the short-term and long-term effects of sanctions, having due regard to the need for the Council to act speedily in certain cases.

2. Sanctions should be established in strict conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, with clear objectives, provision for regular review, and precise conditions for their lifting. The implementation of sanctions must adhere to the terms of the applicable Security Council resolutions. In this context, the Council must act in accordance with Article 24, paragraph 2, of the Charter. At the same time, the Council's ability to act speedily, in the objective interest of maintaining international peace and security, must be recognized.

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[32] A/50/711.

3. The Security Council has the ability to determine the time-frame of sanctions. This question is of the greatest importance and should be seriously considered in connection with the objective of changing the behaviour of the target party while not causing unnecessary suffering to the civilian population. The Council should define the time-frame for sanctions regimes taking these considerations into account.

4. While there is a need to maintain the effectiveness of sanctions imposed in accordance with the Charter, unintended adverse side effects on the civilian population should be minimized by making the appropriate humanitarian exceptions in the Security Council resolutions. Sanctions regimes must also ensure that appropriate conditions are created for allowing an adequate supply of humanitarian material to reach the civilian population.

5. The purpose of sanctions is to modify the behaviour of a party that is threatening international peace and security and not to punish or otherwise exact retribution. Sanctions regimes should be commensurate with these objectives.

6. Clarity should be a goal in the formulation of Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions. The steps required from the target country for the sanctions to be lifted should be precisely defined.

7. Before sanctions are applied, a clear warning could be expressed in unequivocal language to the target country or party.

8. The Security Council could also provide for imposing sanctions that may be partially lifted, in the event the target country or party complies with previously defined requirements imposed by specific resolutions. It could also consider the possibility of introducing a range of sanctions and lifting them progressively as each target is achieved.

9. Sanctions shall be implemented in good faith, and uniformally by all States. Violations must be brought to the attention of the general membership of the United Nations through the appropriate channels.

10. Just as the Security Council periodically reviews sanctions, it should also consider whether they are being fully implemented by all States.

11. It bears recalling that monitoring and compliance is first and foremost the responsibility of individual Member States. Member States should endeavour to prevent or correct activities in violation of the sanctions measures within their jurisdiction.

12. International monitoring by the Security Council or by one of its subsidiary organs of compliance with sanctions measures, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions, can contribute to the effectiveness of United Nations sanctions. States that may require assistance in the implementation and monitoring of sanctions may seek the assistance of the United Nations or relevant regional organizations.

13. States should be encouraged to cooperate in exchanging information about the legislative, administrative and practical implementation of sanctions.

14. Sanctions often have a serious negative impact on the development capacity and activity of target countries. Efforts should continue to be made to minimize unintended side effects of sanctions, especially with regard to the humanitarian situation and the development capacity that has a bearing on the humanitarian situation. In some instances the application of sanctions may not be compatible, however, with bilateral and multilateral development programmes.

15. Humanitarian assistance should be provided in an impartial and expeditious manner. Means should be envisaged to minimize the particular suffering of the most vulnerable groups, keeping in mind emergency situations, such as mass refugee flows.

16. With a view to addressing the humanitarian impact of sanctions, the assistance of concerned international financial and other intergovernmental and regional organizations should be sought for providing an assessment of the humanitarian needs and the vulnerabilities of target countries at the time of the imposition of sanctions and regularly thereafter while they are being implemented. The appropriate department of the Secretariat could play a coordinating role, in this context.

17. Guidelines for the formulation of the humanitarian exceptions mentioned in paragraph 4 should be developed, bearing in mind that the humanitarian requirements may differ according to the stage of development, geography, natural resources, and other features of the target country.

18. Foodstuffs, medicines and medical supplies should be exempted from United Nations sanctions regimes. Basic or standard medical and agricultural equipment and basic or standard educational items should also be exempted; a list should be drawn up for that purpose. Other essential humanitarian goods should be considered for exemption by the relevant United Nations bodies, including the sanctions committees. In this regard it is recognized that efforts should be made to allow target countries to have access to appropriate resources and procedures for financing humanitarian imports.

19. The work of United Nations humanitarian agencies should be facilitated in accordance with applicable Security Council resolutions and sanctions committee guidelines.

20. The concept of "humanitarian limits of sanctions" deserves further attention and standard approaches should be elaborated by the relevant United Nations bodies.

21. The target country should exert all possible efforts to facilitate equitable distribution and sharing of humanitarian assistance.

22. Having assumed great importance for a large number of countries, specific sanctions regimes would necessitate the submission of special reports by the Security Council to the General Assembly for its consideration.

23. The Secretary-General in his Supplement to an Agenda for Peace noted that there was an urgent need for action to respond to the expectations raised by Article 50 of the Charter. He also noted that sanctions are measures taken collectively and that the costs involved in their application should be borne equitably by all Member States.

24. More frequently resorted to in the recent past, sanctions have been causing problems of an economic nature in third countries. The importance of the subject has been reflected in intensive consideration of the question in its conceptual and specific forms by the General Assembly in the last few years.

25. Taking into account the importance of the resolutions adopted by consensus, the Security Council, the General Assembly and other relevant organs should intensify their efforts to address the special economic problems of third countries affected by sanctions regimes. They should also take into consideration the proposals presented on the subject during the debate in the Informal Open-Ended Working Group of the General Assembly on an Agenda for Peace and other relevant bodies.

26. Bearing in mind that this question has been under intensive discussion in the Sixth Committee, and that those discussions are to continue during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, it is agreed that this aspect should be addressed in an appropriate manner by the Sixth Committee during that session.

27. Security Council resolutions should include more precise mandates for sanctions committees, including a standard approach to be followed by the committees.

28. The mandates of sanctions committees should be such that they can be fulfilled in practical terms.

29. While noting the improvements in the functioning of the sanctions committees following upon the notes by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995, 33/ 31 May 1995 34/ and 24 January 1996, 35/ and that all committees are already working on the basis of those notes, it is recognized that the process needs to be encouraged and further developed.

30. The sanctions committees should give priority to handling applications for the supply of humanitarian goods meant for the civilian population. Those applications should be dealt with expeditiously.

31. The sanctions committees should give priority to the humanitarian problems that could arise from the application of sanctions. Whenever it considers that a humanitarian problem is about to arise in a target country, such a situation should immediately be brought to the attention of the Security Council. The committees may suggest changes in specific sanctions regimes to address particular humanitarian issues with a view to taking urgent corrective steps.

32. Likewise, when a committee considers that a sanctions enforcement problem has arisen, it should bring the situation to the attention of the Council. The committees may suggest changes in specific sanctions regimes to address particular enforcement issues with a view to taking urgent corrective steps.

33. Further improvements in the working methods of sanctions committees that promote transparency, fairness and effectiveness and help the committees to speed up their deliberations are necessary.

34. Measures additional to those contemplated in the aforementioned notes by the President of the Security Council might include, among others, improvements in the decision-making procedures of the sanctions committees and the possibility for affected States to implement more effectively their right to make representation to the committees against their decisions.

35. Improvements in the "authorized signatory system" should be sought so that delays in clearing proposals may be avoided. The reasons for putting applications on hold or blocking them should be immediately communicated to the applicant.

36. The practice of hearing technical presentations of information by organizations assisting in the enforcement of Security Council sanctions during closed meetings of the sanctions committees should be continued, while respecting the existing procedures followed by such committees. The target or affected countries, as well as concerned organizations, should be better able to exercise the right of explaining or presenting their points of view to the sanctions committees. The presentations should be expert and comprehensive.

37. Sanctions committee secretariats should be adequately staffed, from within existing resources. This is necessary to expedite the processing of applications and the giving of clearances.

38. Sanctions committees could analyse available information so as to determine whether regimes are being effectively implemented. They could bring their conclusions and, if appropriate, recommendations in this respect to the attention of the Security Council.

39. Clarifying statements and decisions by the sanctions committees are an important contribution to the uniform application of a given sanctions regime. Such statements and decisions must be consistent with Security Council resolutions and with one another.

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33/ S/1995/234.

34/ S/1995/438.

35/ S/1996/54.

RESOLUTION RELATING TO SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION (FOURTH COMMITTEE) MATTERS

51/224 Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

Date: 27 March 1997	Meeting: 94
Votes: A - Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/588/Add.1
B - Adopted without a vote	

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, [36]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing its concern that even three and a half decades after the adoption of the Declaration there still remains a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

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[36] A/51/23 (Part VI), chap. X.

Acknowledging the significant achievements by the international community towards the eradication of colonialism in accordance with the Declaration and conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000,

Taking note of the positive constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories about which the Special Committee has received information, while also recognizing the need for recognition to be given to expressions of self-determination by the peoples of the Territories consistent with practice under the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing that in the decolonization process there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination as enunciated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand, as an administering Power, in the work of the Special Committee, and welcoming the recent constitutional developments in Tokelau,

Welcoming the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it continues to take seriously its obligations under the Charter to develop self-government in the dependent Territories and, in cooperation with the locally elected Governments, to ensure that their constitutional frameworks continue to meet the wishes of the people, and the emphasis that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories to decide their future status,

Welcoming the stated position of the Government of the United States of America that it supports fully the principles of decolonization and takes seriously its obligations under the Charter to promote to the utmost the well-being of the inhabitants of the Territories under United States administration,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Aware of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of appointed and elected representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections, and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must not take place without an active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other General Assembly resolutions,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Taking note of the fact that the Special Committee held at Port Moresby, from 12 to 14 June 1996, a Pacific regional seminar to review the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly their political evolution towards self-determination by the year 2000, Mindful that in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories, and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for the Committee to be apprised by the administering Powers, and to receive information from other appropriate sources, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Mindful also that in this connection the Special Committee regards the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at United Nations Headquarters and other venues, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as a helpful means to fulfil its mandate, while recognizing the need for reviewing the role of these seminars in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Mindful further that some Territories have not had any United Nations visiting mission for a long period of time,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter "the Territories", [37] and takes note of the recommendations contained therein subject to the changes introduced by the present resolution;

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination, including, if they so wish, independence, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. Reaffirms also that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with legitimate political status options, including those defined in resolution 1541 (XV);

4. Requests the administering Powers to transmit to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter and other information and reports, including reports on the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories regarding their future political status as expressed in fair and free referendums and other forms of popular consultation, as well as the results of any informed and democratic processes consistent with practice under the Charter which indicate the clear and freely expressed wish of the people to change the existing status of the Territories;

5. Stresses the importance for the Special Committee to be apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and to enhance its understanding of their conditions;

6. Reaffirms that United Nations visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and requests the administering Powers and the elected representatives of the peoples of the Territories to assist the Special Committee in this regard;

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[37] A/51/23 (Part VI), chap. X.

7. Reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. Requests the administering Powers in consultation with the peoples of the Territories to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

9. Calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other offences;

10. Stresses that eradication of colonialism by the year 2000 requires the full and constructive cooperation of all parties concerned;

11. Takes note of the particular circumstances which prevail in the Territories concerned, and encourages the political evolution in them towards self-determination;

12. Urges Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in the twenty-first century in a world free of colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

13. Invites the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories;

14. Requests the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly appropriate ways to assist the peoples of the Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-second session.

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

I. American Samoa

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the report by the administering Power that most American Samoan leaders express satisfaction with the island's present relationship with the United States of America,

Noting the non-participation of representatives of the people of American Samoa in the last two regional seminars,

Noting also that the Government of the Territory continues to have significant financial, budgetary and internal control problems and that the Territory's deficit and financial condition are compounded by the high demand for government services from the rapidly growing population, a limited economic and tax base, and recent natural disasters, Noting further that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience lack of adequate medical facilities and other infrastructural requirements, especially the provision of safe drinking water to all villages in American Samoa,

Aware of the efforts of the Government of the Territory to control and reduce expenditures, while continuing its programme of expanding and diversifying the local economy,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. Calls upon the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the economic and social development of the Territory, including measures to rebuild financial management capabilities and strengthen other governmental functions of the Government of the Territory.

II. Anguilla

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that information considered by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was made available from published sources,

Conscious of the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the administering Power to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership through the Country Policy Plan for 1993-1997,

Aware of the efforts of the Government of Anguilla to continue to develop the Territory as a viable offshore centre and well-regulated financial centre for investors, by enacting modern company and trust laws, as well as partnership and insurance legislation, and computerizing the company registry system,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in tackling the problems of drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. Calls upon the administering Power and all countries, organizations and United Nations agencies to continue to assist the Territory in social and economic development.

III. Bermuda

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the results of the independence referendum held on 16 August 1995 in Bermuda,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties of the Territory on the future status of the Territory, Noting the measures taken by the Government to combat racism and the plan to set up a Commission for Unity and Racial Equality,

Noting also the report of the intended closure of the foreign military bases and installations in the Territory,

Taking into consideration the statement made in October 1995 by the Finance Minister on the transfer of those lands for development projects,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. Calls upon the administering Power to continue its programmes of socio-economic development of the Territory;

3. Also requests the administering Power to elaborate, in consultation with the territorial Government, programmes of development specifically intended to alleviate the economic, social and environmental consequences of the closure of certain military bases and installations in the Territory.

IV. British Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the completion of the constitutional review in the British Virgin Islands and the coming into force of the amended Constitution, and noting also the results of the general elections held on 20 February 1995,

Noting also the results of the constitutional review of 1993-1994, which made it clear that a prerequisite to independence must be a constitutionally expressed wish by the people as a result of a referendum,

Taking note of the statement made in 1995 by the Chief Minister of the British Virgin Islands that the Territory was ready for constitutional and political advancement towards full internal self-government and that the administering Power should assist through the gradual transfer of power to elected territorial representatives,

Noting that the Territory is emerging as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

Noting also the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. Also requests the administering Power, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory for socio-economic development and the development of human resources, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external factors.

V. Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that information considered by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was made available from published sources,

Noting the constitutional review of 1992-1993, according to which the population of the Cayman Islands expressed the sentiment that the existing relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should be maintained and that the current status of the Territory should not be altered,

Aware that the Territory has one of the highest per capita incomes in the region, a stable political climate, and virtually no unemployment,

Noting also the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation of the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities,

Noting further the measures taken by the authorities to deal with those problems,

Noting that the Territory has emerged as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. Also requests the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its socio-economic aims;

3. Calls upon the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

4. Requests the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level.

VI. Guam

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the people of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory, Recalling also the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned pending the expression of the will of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware of the continued negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory, with particular emphasis on the question of the evolution of the relationship between the United States of America and Guam,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Taking note of the proposed closing and realigning of four United States Navy installations on Guam and the request for the establishment of a transition period to develop some of the closed facilities as commercial enterprises,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory and noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific Regional Seminar [38] for sending a visiting mission to Guam,

1. Calls upon the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as endorsed by the people of Guam, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government of Guam to continue the negotiations on this matter, and requests the administering Power to inform the Secretary-General of progress to this end;

2. Requests the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. Also requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue the orderly transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to safeguard their property rights;

4. Further requests the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the people of Guam, including the Chamorro people, and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the immigration issue;

5. Requests the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes specifically intended to promote the sustainable development of economic activities and enterprises by the people of Guam, including the Chamorro people;

6. Also requests the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities.

38/ See A/AC.109/2058.

VII. Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the non-receipt of up-to-date information on Montserrat from the administering Power and that a last visiting mission took place in 1982,

Noting also that information considered by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was made available from published sources,

Noting the functioning of a democratic process in Montserrat,

Taking note of the reported statement of the Chief Minister that his preference was for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and that self-reliance was more of a priority than independence,

Noting with concern the dire consequences of a volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of a third of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island,

Noting also the efforts of the administering Power and the Government of the Territory to meet the emergency situation caused by the volcanic eruption, including the implementation of a wide range of contingency measures for both private and public sectors in Montserrat,

Noting further the coordinated response measures taken by the United Nations Development Programme and the assistance of the United Nations disaster management team,

Noting with deep concern that a substantial number of the inhabitants of the Territory continue to live in shelters because of volcanic activity,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. Calls upon the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to provide urgent emergency assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption.

VIII. Pitcairn

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Taking into account the unique nature of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

Expressing its satisfaction with the continued economic and social advancement of the Territory, as well as with the improvement of its communications with the outside world and its management plan to address conservation issues,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

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2. Also requests the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory.

IX. St. Helena

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Taking into account the unique character of St. Helena, its population and its natural resources,

Aware of the request by the Legislative Council of St. Helena that the administering Power conduct a constitutional review in the Territory,

Noting the statement of 1995 by the administering Power that the Governor of the island would be ready to enter into debate on a constitutional review of St. Helena,

Aware of the establishment by the Government of the Territory of the Development Agency in 1995 to encourage private sector commercial development on the island,

Also aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of St. Helena, in particular in the sphere of food production,

1. Notes that the administering Power has noted various statements made by members of the Legislative Council of St. Helena about the Constitution and is prepared to discuss these further with the people of St. Helena, and also notes that the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association recently sent a delegation to study the Constitution and its application with the Legislative Council;

2. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

3. Also requests the administering Power and relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development of the Territory.

X. Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the recent petition by the political leaders of the Turks and Caicos Islands addressed to the administering Power to recall the Governor and the decision by the administering Power to reject that petition,

Noting with interest the statement made and the information on the political and economic situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands provided by the Deputy Chief Minister of the Territory to the Pacific Regional Seminar held at Port Moresby from 12 to 14 June 1996,

Taking note of the request by the Deputy Chief Minister of the Territory addressed to the Special Committee to visit the Territory and ascertain the wishes of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands with regard to preparing themselves for self-government, *Noting also* the establishment in November 1995 of the Action Committee for Political Independence, formed by prominent political figures from different parties, and its stated goal of educating the population in the disadvantages of the present colonial status and the benefits of independence,

Noting further the efforts by the Government of the Territory to strengthen financial management in the public sector, including efforts to increase revenue,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities, as well as its problems caused by illegal immigration,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Invites* the administering Power to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the governance of the Territory;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to continue to provide assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking.

XI. *United States Virgin Islands*

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that general elections were held in November 1994 in the United States Virgin Islands,

Noting also that 27.5 per cent of the electorate participated in the referendum on the political status of the Territory held on 11 October 1993, and that 80.4 per cent of those who voted supported the existing territorial status arrangements with the United States of America, and that the referendum left the status issue undecided,

Noting further the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community,

Noting the necessity of further diversifying the Territory's economy,

Noting also that the question of Water Island is still under discussion between the Government of the Territory and the administering Power,

Noting further the efforts of the Government of the Territory to promote the Territory as an offshore financial services centre,

Noting with satisfaction that the Territory joined the International Drug Enforcement Conference as a full member in 1995, which would strengthen its capability to combat illegal drug trafficking,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Requests the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. Also requests the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. Further requests the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community;

4. Welcomes the negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the question of Water Island.

* * *

RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVEAND BUDGETARY (FIFTH COMMITTEE) MATTERS

51/2 B Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Date: 13 June 1997
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 101
Report: A/51/502/Add.1

The General Assembly ,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara 39/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 40/

Recalling Security Council resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1108 (1997) of 22 May 1997,

Recalling also its resolution 45/266 of 17 May 1991 on the financing of the Mission, and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/2 of 17 October 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

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39/ A/51/763 and Add.1.

40/ A/51/847.

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Mission on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara as at 13 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 40,805,574 United States dollars, representing 16 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 30 November 1996, notes that some 30 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 41/

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate and apportion to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara the amount of 7,557,450 dollars gross (7,107,600 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 30 September 1997, inclusive of the amount of 280,500 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998; 42/

8. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 449,850 dollars approved for the period from 1 July to 30 September 1997;

9. Decides further to appropriate the amount of 22,672,350 dollars gross (21,322,800 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 October 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 841,500 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed on Member States

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41/ A/51/847.

42/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

at a monthly rate of 2,519,150 dollars gross (2,369,200 dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 30 September 1997;

10. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,349,550 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 October 1997 to 30 June 1998;

11. Decides also that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission for the period ending 30 November 1996, there shall be set off against the assessment for the period beyond 30 November 1996 their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 19,392,900 dollars gross (16,687,100 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1996;

12. Decides further that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 19,392,900 dollars gross (16,687,100 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

13. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara".

51/3 Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia

Resolution	Date	Vote	Meeting	Report
B	27 March 1997	Adopted without a vote	94	A/51/504/Add.1
C	13 June 1997	Adopted without a vote	101	A/51/504/Add.2

B

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia 43/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 44/

Recalling Security Council resolution 866 (1993) of 22 September 1993, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia, and subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1083 (1996) of 27 November 1996,

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43/ A/51/756 and Add.1.

44/ A/51/423/Add.1.

Recalling also its decision 48/478 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/3 of 17 October 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decision regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observer Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia as at 12 March 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 4,610,679 United States dollars, representing 6 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Observer Mission to the period ending 31 March 1996, notes that some 39 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses appreciation to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [45] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that all United Nations activities related to the Liberian peace process are administered in a coordinated fashion with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia the amount of 12,169,600 dollars gross (11,838,800 dollars net), already authorized and apportioned under the terms of resolution 50/210 of 23 December 1995 for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 February to 31 March 1996 and to extend the period covered by the appropriation from 31 March to 30 June 1996;

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[45] A/51/423/Add.1.

8. Decides also to appropriate to the Special Account for the Observer Mission an additional amount of 17,899,000 dollars gross (17,544,100 dollars net) for the operation of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997;

9. Decides further to apportion among Member States the amount of 5,840,000 dollars gross (5,494,500 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July to 30 November 1996 in accordance with the composition of the groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1996 and 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995;

10. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 345,500 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July to 30 November 1996;

11. Decides also to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 13,192,345 dollars gross (12,989,545 dollars net) for the operation of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 March 1997 in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution;

12. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 202,800 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 March 1997;

13. Decides to apportion among Member States the amount of 4,706,655 dollars gross (4,554,555 dollars net) at the monthly rate of 1,568,885 dollars gross (1,518,185 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 April to 30 June 1997 in addition to the amount of 1,168,000 dollars gross (1,098,900 dollars net) per month already authorized under General Assembly resolution 51/3 and in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 31 March 1997;

14. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 152,100 dollars, which is equivalent to a monthly rate of 50,700 dollars, approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 April to 30 June 1997;

15. Decides further that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided in paragraphs 9 and 11 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 13,466,400 dollars gross (13,443,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996;

16. Decides that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 13,466,400 dollars gross (13,443,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

17. Invites voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia".

C

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia, 46/ the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 47/ and the relevant report of the Board of Auditors, 48/

Recalling Security Council resolution 866 (1993) of 22 September 1993, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia, and subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1100 (1997) of 27 March 1997,

Recalling also its decision 48/478 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/3 B of 27 March 1997,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observer Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 17,879,409 United States dollars, representing 16 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Observer Mission to the period ending 30 June 1997, notes that some 16 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

46/ A/51/756/Add.2.

47/ A/51/423/Add.2.

48/ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/51/5), vol. II.

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 49/ and the report of the Board of Auditors; 50/

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia the amount of 20,447,100 dollars gross (18,918,300 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 758,700 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of 1,703,925 dollars gross (1,576,525 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, 51/ subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Observer Mission beyond 30 June 1997;

8. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,528,800 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

9. Invites voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia".

51/12 B Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters

Date: 13 June 1997	Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/639/Add.2

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive

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49/ A/51/423/Add.2

50/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. II.

51/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters 52/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 53/

Having considered also the report of the Board of Auditors 54/ and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, 55/

Recalling Security Council resolutions 727 (1992) of 8 January 1992 and 740 (1992) of 7 February 1992, in which the Council endorsed the sending of a group of military liaison officers to Yugoslavia to promote maintenance of the ceasefire,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 743 (1992) of 21 February 1992, by which the Council established the United Nations Protection Force, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended and expanded its mandate,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 981 (1995) of 31 March 1995, by which the Council established the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, to be known as UNCRO,

Recalling Security Council resolution 983 (1995) of 31 March 1995, by which the Council decided that the United Nations Protection Force within the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should be known as the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1025 (1995) of 30 November 1995, in which the Council decided to terminate the mandate of the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia on 15 January 1996,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 1031 (1995) of 15 December 1995, in which the Council decided to terminate the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force on the date on which the Secretary-General reported that the transfer of authority from the United Nations Protection Force to the Implementation Force had taken place,

Recalling the letter dated 1 February 1996 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General 56/ informing him of the Council's concurrence in principle that the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force should become an independent mission,

Recalling also its resolution 46/233 of 19 March 1992 on the financing of the United Nations Protection Force and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was decision 51/457 of 18 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the combined Forces are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the combined Forces, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

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52/ A/51/701.

53/ A/51/872.

54/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. II.

55/ A/51/432, annex.

56/ S/1996/76.

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the combined Forces by certain Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the combined Forces with the necessary financial resources to meet their outstanding liabilities,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the combined Forces as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 732 million United States dollars, representing 15 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the United Nations Protection Force to the period ending 31 March 1996, notes that some 36 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the combined Forces in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 57/ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. Endorses also the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Board of Auditors 58/ and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services; 59/

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the combined Forces are administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate the amount of 240,562,100 dollars gross (236,351,600 dollars net) for the combined Forces for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996, taking into account the amount of 100 million dollars gross (98,430,700 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in its decision 50/410 B of 23 December 1995, the amount of 50 million dollars gross (49,215,350 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996, for the period from 1 January to 31 May 1996 and the amount of 90,562,100 dollars gross (88,705,550 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in its resolution 50/235 of 7 June 1996 for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996;

57/ A/51/872.

58/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. II.

59/ A/51/432, annex.

9. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 89,484,800 dollars gross (87,915,500 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly decision 50/410 B, to apportion the additional amount of 151,077,300 dollars gross (148,436,100 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1996, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995;

10. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 2,641,200 dollars approved for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996;

11. Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the combined Forces, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 87,793,328 dollars gross (92,251,479 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1996;

12. Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their obligations to the combined Forces, their share of the unencumbered balance of 87,793,328 dollars gross (92,251,479 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

13. Decides further to appropriate the amount of 50,247,200 dollars gross (46,951,000 dollars net) for the liquidation of the combined Forces and common support for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, inclusive of the amount of 1,193,200 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, the amount of 18,693,450 dollars gross (17,361,600 dollars net) already authorized by the Assembly in its resolution 50/235 for the period from 1 July to 30 September 1996, the amount of 6,231,150 dollars gross (5,787,200 dollars net) already authorized by the Assembly in its decision 50/410 C of 17 September 1996 for the period from 1 to 31 October 1996, the amount of 12,462,300 dollars gross (11,574,400 dollars net) already authorized by the Assembly in its resolution 51/12 of 4 November 1996 for the period from 1 November to 31 December 1996 and the amount of 12,860,300 dollars gross (12,227,800 dollars net) already authorized by the Assembly in its decision 51/457 for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997;

14. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 50,247,200 dollars gross (46,951,000 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997 among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1996 and 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B and its decision 50/471 A;

15. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 3,296,200 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997;

16. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters".

51/14 B Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti

Date: 13 June 1997
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 101
Report: A/51/637/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti, 60/ the relevant reports of the Board of Auditors 61/ and the Office of Internal Oversight Services 62/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 63/

Recalling Security Council resolution 1048 (1996) of 29 February 1996, in which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission for a final period of four months, to 30 June 1996, as well as all previous Security Council resolutions on the Mission,

Recalling also its decision 48/477 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/14 of 4 November 1996,

Reaffirming that all necessary action should be taken to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy,

Reaffirming also that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission by certain Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to meet its outstanding liabilities,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Haiti as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 11 million United States dollars, representing 3 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 31 July 1996, notes that some 73 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

60/ A/51/764 and Add.1.

61/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. II.

62/ A/51/432.

63/ A/51/861.

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 64/

6. Expresses its concern about problems with procurement practices and assets management in the United Nations Mission in Haiti as pointed out in the reports of the Board of Auditors 65/ and the Office of Internal Oversight Services 66/ and in the report of the Advisory Committee, 67/ and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the measures taken to address the problems raised in those reports;

7. Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 7,022,800 dollars gross (6,840,300 dollars net) for the period from 1 March to 30 June 1996 shall be credited to those Member States;

8. Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 7,022,800 dollars gross (6,840,300 dollars net) for the period from 1 March to 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

9. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the final disposition of the assets of the Mission; 68/

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti".

51/15 B Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti

Date: 13 June 1997	Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/638/Add.2

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, 69/ the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 70/ and the reports of the Board of Auditors 71/ and the Office of Internal Oversight Services, 72/

64/ A/51/861.

65/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. II.

66/ A/51/432.

67/ A/51/861.

68/ A/51/764/Add.1.

69/ A/51/825.

70/ A/51/861.

71/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. II.

72/ A/51/432, annex.

Recalling Security Council resolution 1063 (1996) of 28 June 1996, by which the Council established the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Support Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1086 (1996) of 5 December 1996,

Recalling also its resolution 51/15 of 4 November 1996 on the financing of the Support Mission and its decision 51/459 of 18 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Support Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decision regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Support Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Support Mission by certain Governments,

Noting that the assessed contributions to the special account to be established for the Support Mission will cover only direct and indirect costs associated with the six hundred contingent personnel and three hundred civilian police authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 1086 (1996),

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Support Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 19 million United States dollars, representing 39 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Support Mission to the period ending 31 May 1997, notes that some 36 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Support Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 73/ the Board of Auditors 74/ and the Office of Internal Oversight Services; 75/

6. Approves, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Support Mission with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistic support to the Support Mission shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Support Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate the amount of 15,091,000 dollars gross (14,478,400 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Support Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 15 March 1998, inclusive of the amount of 561,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, 76/ subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Support Mission beyond 31 May 1997;

9. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 612,600 dollars approved for the Support Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 15 March 1998;

10. Invites voluntary contributions to the Support Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti".

ANNEX

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts payable shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti until payment is effected.

73/ A/51/861.

74/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. II.

75/ A/51/432, annex.

76/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

2. (a) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in regulation 4.3;

(b) Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(c) At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefore shall be surrendered.

51/152 B Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Date: 13 June 1997	Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/710/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina [77] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [78]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1035 (1995) of 21 December 1995, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina for an initial period of one year, and 1088 (1996) of 12 December 1996, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission to 21 December 1997,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1093 (1997) of 14 January 1997, in which the Council authorized the United Nations military observers to continue to monitor the demilitarization of the Prevlaka peninsula until 15 July 1997,

Recalling further its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/152 of 16 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

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[77] A/51/519/Add.1-4.

[78] A/51/872 and A/51/910.

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 27.4 million United States dollars, representing 18 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 30 June 1997, notes that some 21 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 79/

6. Approves, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Mission with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistic support to the Mission shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina the amount of 178,880,900 dollars gross (170,269,700 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 6,880,900 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be apportioned among Member States at a monthly rate of 14,906,742 dollars gross (14,189,142 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994, and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, 80/ subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 21 December 1997;

9. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 8,611,200 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

79/ A/51/872/ and A/51/910.

80/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

10. Decides further that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 6,516,800 dollars gross (6,500,800 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1996;

11. Decides that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 6,516,800 dollars gross (6,500,800 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

12. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

ANNEX

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina until payment is effected.

2. (a) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in regulation 4.3;

(b) Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(c) At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.

51/153 B Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium

Date: 13 June 1997
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 101
Report: A/51/711/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium [81] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [82]

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[81] A/51/520/Add.1-3.

[82] A/51/872.

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1037 (1996) of 15 January 1996, by which the Council established the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium for an initial period of twelve months, and 1079 (1996) of 15 November 1996, in which the Council extended the mandate of the Transitional Administration to 15 July 1997,

Recalling also its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996 on the financing of the Transitional Administration and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/153 of 16 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Transitional Administration are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Transitional Administration, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Transitional Administration,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Transitional Administration with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 51 million United States dollars, representing 11 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Transitional Administration to the period ending 30 June 1997, notes that some 22 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Transitional Administration in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 83/

6. Approves, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Transitional Administration with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistic

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83/ A/51/872.

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support to the Transitional Administration shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Transitional Administration is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium the amount of 275,344,900 dollars gross (266,226,000 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 10,276,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations to be assessed among Member States at a monthly rate of 22,945,408 dollars gross (22,185,500 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995 and 1998, 84/ subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Transitional Administration beyond 15 July 1997;

9. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 9,118,900 dollars approved for the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

10. Decides further that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Transitional Administration, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 18,826,400 dollars gross (18,800,000 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1996;

11. Decides that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Transitional Administration, their share of the unencumbered balance of 18,826,400 dollars gross (18,800,000 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

12. Invites voluntary contributions to the Transitional Administration in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium".

ANNEX

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Transitional Administration in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium until payment is effected.

84/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

2. (a) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in regulation 4.3;

(b) Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(c) At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.

51/154 B Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force

Date: 13 June 1997 Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote Report: A/51/712/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force [85] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [86]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 983 (1995) of 31 March 1995, by which the Council decided that the United Nations Protection Force within the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should be known as the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force, and 1110 (1997) of 28 May 1997, in which the Council extended the mandate of the Force until 30 November 1997,

Recalling also its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 51/154 of 16 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Force are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force by certain Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

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[85] A/51/508/Add.1-3.

[86] A/51/872 and A/51/910.

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 7.8 million United States dollars, representing 15 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force to the period ending 30 June 1997, notes that some 23 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; [87]

6. Approves, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Force with regard to the application of article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistic support to the Force shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force the amount of 46,506,700 dollars gross (44,969,500 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 1,906,700 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed among Member States at a monthly rate of 4,283,892 dollars gross (4,142,192 dollars net) during the period from 1 July to 31 October 1997 and at a monthly rate of 3,671,392 dollars gross (3,550,092 dollars net) thereafter, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, [88] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 30 November 1997;

9. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,537,200 dollars approved for the Force for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

10. Decides further that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share

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[87] A/51/872 and A/51/910.

[88] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

in the unencumbered balance of 5,259,700 dollars gross (5,070,300 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1996;

11. Decides that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, their share of the unencumbered balance of 5,259,700 dollars gross (5,070,300 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

12. Invites voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force".

ANNEX

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force until payment is effected.

2. (a) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in regulation 4.3;

(b) Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(c) At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.

51/211 F Pattern of conferences

Date: 15 September 1997 Meeting: 107
Adopted without a vote Report: A/51/742/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/211 C of 18 December 1996 on the pattern of conferences,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on access to the optical disk system, [89]

Taking into account that only publicly available official documents, publications and public texts of the United Nations are stored in the optical disk system,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts to improve access to the optical disk system,

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[89] A/C.5/51/56.

1. Encourages the Secretary-General to develop a policy for the further expansion of the optical disk system of the United Nations, including provisions for making it available on a fee-for-service basis to any interested party, on the understanding that access will continue to be provided free of charge to permanent and observer missions and other government offices of Member States, with a maximum of ten access passwords for each Member State, as well as provisions for making it available to all staff of the Secretariat;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in developing such a policy, to take into account the special needs of developing countries and of other special groups of potential users;

3. Calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure that the ease of access to and the flow of information from the optical disk system to end-users, especially in capitals, is both continuous and uninterrupted;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue work on providing access to the optical disk system in the six official languages of the United Nations on an equal basis;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on that policy to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-second session.

51/212 B Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Date: 3 April 1997
Adopted without a vote
Meeting: 95
Report: A/51/747/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions and decisions on the scale of assessments, in particular resolutions 48/223 B and C of 23 December 1993,

Having considered the reports of the Committee on Contributions, [90]

Reaffirming the fundamental principle that the expenses of the Organization should be apportioned broadly according to capacity to pay,

1. Requests the Committee on Contributions to present to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session eight proposals for a scale of assessments for the period 1998-2000 as follows:

(a) A proposal based on the methodology used for the scale of assessments for the period 1995-1997;

(b) A proposal to include the following elements and criteria:

(i) The scale to be based on estimates of gross national product, as a first approximation of the capacity to pay, and subject to adjustment for factors identified by the General Assembly;

(ii) A statistical base period of six years;

(iii) Uniform exchange rates, in accordance with the criteria contained in paragraph 3 (b) of resolution 46/221 B of 20 December 1991;

(iv) The debt adjustment approach used in the preparation of the scale of assessments for the period 1995-1997;

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[90] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/50/11); and A/50/11/Add.2.

(v) A low per capita income allowance formula with a per capita income limit of the average world per capita income for the statistical base period and a gradient of 85 per cent;

(vi) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(vii) A ceiling rate of 25 per cent;

(viii) The phase-out of the scheme of limits in accordance with resolutions 48/223 B and 49/19 B of 23 December 1994;

(ix) The scale of assessments to be expressed to three decimal places of a percentage point;

(x) In phasing out the scheme of limits, the allocation of additional points resulting therefrom to developing countries benefiting from its application to be limited to 15 per cent of the effect of the phase-out;

(xi) Individual rates of assessment for the least developed countries not to exceed the current level of 0.01 per cent;

(c) A proposal to include the following elements and criteria:

(i) Use of gross national product instead of net national income;

(ii) A statistical base period of six years;

(iii) The debt adjustment approach and low per capita income allowance formula used in the preparation of the scale of assessments for the period 1995-1997;

(iv) A floor rate of 0.001 per cent and a ceiling of 25 per cent;

(v) The scale of assessments to be expressed to three decimal places of a percentage point;

(vi) Market exchange rates to be used for the purpose of the scale, except where this causes excessive fluctuations or distortions in the income of some Member States, when price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates, such as uniform exchange rates, in accordance with the criteria contained in paragraph 3 (b) of General Assembly resolution 46/221 B, are to be employed;

(vii) Individual rates of assessment for the least developed countries not to exceed the current level of 0.01 per cent;

(viii) The scheme of limits to be phased out in accordance with paragraph 1 (f) of General Assembly resolution 48/223 B, and the allocation of additional points resulting therefrom to developing countries benefiting from its application to be limited to 15 per cent of the effect of the phase-out;

(d) A proposal to include the following elements and criteria:

(i) The scale to be based on data on gross national product;

(ii) A statistical base period of three years, with automatic annual updating;

(iii) A ceiling rate of 20 per cent;

(iv) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(v) The scale of assessments to be expressed to three decimal places of a percentage point;

(vi) Use of market exchange rates, except where this causes excessive fluctuations or distortions in the income of some Member States, when price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates are to be employed;

(vii) Setting the low per capita income relief gradient at 75 per cent;

(viii) Non-eligibility of permanent members of the Security Council for relief based on low per capita income;

(ix) The scheme of limits to be phased out in 1998 and the allocation of additional points resulting therefrom to developing countries benefiting from its application to be limited to 15 per cent of the effect of the phase-out;

(e) A proposal to include the following elements and criteria:

(i) The scale to be based on data on gross national product, as a first approximation of capacity to pay;

(ii) A statistical base period of six years;

(iii) Uniform exchange rates, in accordance with the criteria contained in paragraph 3 (b) of resolution 46/221 B;

(iv) Debt adjustment to be based on actual principal payments;

(v) A low per capita income allowance formula with a per capita income limit of the average world per capita income for the statistical base period and a gradient of 75 per cent;

(vi) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(vii) A ceiling rate of 25 per cent;

(viii) Individual rates of assessment for the least developed countries not to exceed the current level of 0.01 per cent;

(ix) The effect of the scheme of limits to be phased out in equal instalments by the year 2000 and the allocation of additional points resulting therefrom to developing countries benefiting from its application to be limited to 15 per cent of the effect of the phase-out;

(x) Non-eligibility of permanent members of the Security Council for a low per capita income allowance in calculating their scale of assessments for the regular budget;

(f) A proposal to include the following elements and criteria:

(i) Use of data on gross national product;

(ii) A statistical base period of three years, with automatic annual recalculation;

(iii) Exchange rates in accordance with the following criteria:

a. Market exchange rates obtained from the International Monetary Fund for all Member States that are members of the Fund;

b. Exchange rates based on the technical advice of the International Monetary Fund for Member States that are not members of the Fund;

c. United Nations operational rates for Member States for which the criteria in subparagraphs (iii) a and b above are not applicable;

d. Price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates where the use of rates consistent with the criteria in subparagraphs (iii) a to c above would cause excessive fluctuations or distortions in the income of some Member States;

e. The Committee on Contributions to provide detailed explanations for exchange rates not based on the criteria in subparagraphs (iii) a to c above;

(iv) No adjustment for external debt;

(v) A low per capita income allowance formula with a per capita income limit of the average world per capita income for the statistical base period and a gradient of 75 per cent;

(vi) The scale of assessments to be expressed to three decimal places of a percentage point;

(vii) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(viii) A maximum assessment rate of 25 per cent;

(ix) No maximum assessment rate for the least developed countries;

(x) The scheme of limits to be fully phased out as at 1 January 1998;

(g) A proposal to include the following elements and criteria:

(i) Estimates of gross national product, as a first approximation of capacity to pay, and subject to adjustment for factors identified by the General Assembly, as recommended by the Committee on Contributions in paragraph 28 of its report; 91/

(ii) A statistical base period of three years;

(iii) Conversion rates as recommended by the Committee on Contributions in paragraph 38 of its report; 92/

(iv) The debt adjustment approach proposed by the Committee on Contributions in paragraph 41 of its report; 93/

(v) A low per capita income allowance formula with a per capita income limit of the world average per capita income for the statistical base period and a gradient of 85 per cent below the limit, the additional points resulting therefrom to be absorbed progressively by countries with a per capita income above the limit, using a gradient of 25 per cent;

(vi) No floor rate;

(vii) A ceiling rate of 25 per cent;

(viii) The remaining effect of the scheme of limits to be phased out completely with effect from 1 January 1998, in accordance with paragraph 1 (*f*) of resolution 48/223 B;

91/ A/50/11/Add.2.

92/ *Ibid*.

93/ *Ibid*.

(ix) The scale of assessments to be expressed to four decimal places of a percentage point;

(x) Individual rates of assessment for the least developed countries not to exceed the current level of 0.01 per cent;

(h) A proposal to include the following elements and criteria:

(i) The scale to be based on data on gross national product;

(ii) A statistical base period of nine years;

(iii) The debt adjustment approach used in the preparation of the scale of assessments for 1995-1997;

(iv) The low per capita income allowance formula used in the preparation of the scale of assessments for 1995-1997, but excluding automatic application of the surtax for countries that cross the threshold until 10 years after the country has crossed the threshold;

(v) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(vi) A ceiling of 25 per cent;

(vii) The scale of assessments to be expressed to three decimal places of a percentage point;

(viii) Market exchange rates to be used for the purpose of the scale, except where this causes excessive fluctuations or distortions in the income of some Member States, when price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates, such as uniform exchange rates, in accordance with the criteria contained in paragraph 3 (b) of General Assembly resolution 46/221 B are to be employed;

(ix) A maximum individual rate of assessment of 0.01 per cent for the least developed countries;

(x) The scheme of limits to be phased out, in accordance with paragraph 1 (f) of General Assembly resolution 48/223 B, and the allocation of additional points resulting therefrom to developing countries benefiting from its application to be limited to 15 per cent of the effect of the phase-out; and to make appropriate recommendations thereon;

2. Decides that, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, the Member State that is the subject of General Assembly decision 50/471 B of 23 December 1995 should not be subject to any increase in its rate of assessment for the period 1998-2000 as a result of the gradual phasing out of the scheme of limits during that period;

3. Requests the Committee on Contributions to keep a number of issues relating to the scale methodology under review.

51/214 B Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Date: 13 June 1997
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 101
Report: A/51/743/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [94] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [95] and the Office of Internal Oversight Services, [96]

Concerned that the report of the Secretary-General and the related performance report for 1996 were not available on a timely basis,

Concerned also that the revised 1997 budget proposals were not prepared on a full-cost basis,

Noting that information on the actual annual cost of new posts was not included in the budget proposals,

1. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [97] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit the report on the conditions of service of the judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to the General Assembly at its fifty-second regular session, no later than 30 November 1997;

3. Decides to defer its consideration of the pension entitlements for members of the International Tribunal pending receipt of the report requested in paragraph 2 above, and decides to consider this question in the context of the 1998 budget proposals of the Tribunal;

4. Notes that the full cost of the new posts recommended by the Advisory Committee would add to the appropriations a further annual requirement of 1,297,200 United States dollars net;

5. Notes also that the standard salary cost equivalent of the 45 gratis personnel serving with the International Tribunal would amount to 2,011,700 dollars gross for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in submitting budgetary proposals for 1998, to make such recommendations as are required to fulfil the mandate of the International Tribunal as soon as possible;

7. Recognizes the importance of continuing to improve arrangements through which the International Tribunal receives proper guidance and assistance from United Nations Headquarters to implement and enforce the financial rules, personnel rules and all other applicable administrative issuances of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

8. Approves the budgetary recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; [98]

9. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 a total amount of 29,825,500 dollars gross (27,440,100 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997;

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[94] A/C.5/51/30/Add.1.

[95] A/51/7/Add.7 and Corr.2.

[96] A/51/824, annex.

[97] A/51/7/Add.7 and Corr.2.

[98] Ibid.

10. Decides also that the appropriation for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997 under the Special Account referred to in paragraph 9 above shall be financed according to the methodology established by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/242 B of 20 July 1995, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

11. Decides further that Member States shall waive their respective shares in the remaining credits arising from previous budgets of the United Nations Protection Force in the amount of 14,912,750 dollars gross (13,720,050 dollars net), to be transferred to the Special Account for the International Tribunal from the Special Account for the United Nations Protection Force;

12. Decides to apportion the amount of 14,912,750 dollars gross (13,720,050 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments for the year 1997;

13. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,192,700 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997.

ANNEX

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

	Gross	Net
	(United States dollars)	
Appropriations for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997	29 825 500	27 440 100
Of which: United Nations Protection Force [a]	14 912 750	13 720 050
Assessed amounts [b]	14 912 750	13 720 050

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[a] Refers to the credits arising from previous budgets of the United Nations Protection Force.

[b] Refers to the contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assesments for the year 1997.

51/215 B Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Date: 13 June 1997	Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/744/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [99] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [100] and the Office of Internal Oversight Services, [101]

Noting with deep concern the serious problems identified by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in its report,

Noting also the initial steps taken in response to the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as set out in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [102]

Concerned that the report of the Secretary-General and the related performance report for 1996 were not available on a timely basis,

Concerned also that the revised 1997 budget proposals were not prepared on a full-cost basis,

Noting that information on the actual annual cost of new posts was not included in the budget proposals,

Noting also that the Secretary-General intends to transmit further reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on a periodic basis,

1. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [103] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. Notes with concern the shortcomings and deficiencies in the operations of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 reported by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and requests the parties concerned to ensure the full and immediate implementation of the recommendations of the Office;

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[99] A/C.5/51/29/Add.1.

[100] A/51/7/Add.8 and Corr.1.

[101] A/51/789, annex.

[102] A/51/7/Add.8, annex I.

[103] A/51/7/Add.8 and Corr.1.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to provide such advice and guidance as is required to ensure the effective administrative functioning of the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the conditions of service of the judges of the International Tribunal for Rwanda to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, no later than 30 November 1997;

5. Decides to defer its consideration of the pension entitlements for members of the International Tribunal for Rwanda pending receipt of the report requested in paragraph 4 above, and decides to consider this question in the context of the 1998 budget proposals of the Tribunal;

6. Notes that the full cost of the new posts recommended by the Advisory Committee would add to the appropriations a further annual requirement of 2,218,800 United States dollars net;

7. Notes also that the standard salary cost equivalent of the 34 gratis personnel serving with the International Tribunal for Rwanda would amount to 1,729,100 dollars gross for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997;

8. Stresses the importance of recruiting qualified personnel with the relevant knowledge, skills and experience to perform the responsibilities required under the applicable job descriptions;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the question of the delegation of authority to recruit staff in the Professional category and above in the context of the proposed budget for 1998;

10. Requests the International Civil Service Commission to consider the recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in paragraph 9 of its report [104] and to report to the General Assembly at the earliest opportunity;

11. Decides that staff of the International Tribunal for Rwanda assigned to Kigali shall continue to be subject to the established compensation and benefit provisions of the United Nations common system pending consideration by the International Civil Service Commission of the question mentioned in paragraph 10 above;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in submitting budgetary proposals for 1998, to make such recommendations as are required to fulfil the mandate of the International Tribunal for Rwanda as soon as possible;

13. Recognizes the importance of continuing to improve arrangements through which the International Tribunal for Rwanda receives proper guidance and assistance from United Nations Headquarters to implement and enforce the financial rules, personnel rules and all other applicable administrative issuances of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

14. Approves the budgetary recommendations of the Advisory Committee, [105] subject to the provision in paragraph 15 of the present resolution;

15. Notes that an estimated unencumbered balance of 3,600,000 dollars would remain at the end of June 1997;

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[104] A/51/7/Add.8 and Corr.1.

[105] Ibid.

16. Notes also that the recommendations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 23 of its report [106] would not provide for all the security resources requested, and decides that, should the need arise, the Registrar would be authorized to redeploy the necessary resources within the overall budgetary provisions of the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to address the question of security resources, as necessary, in the budget submission for 1998;

18. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 a total amount of 18,402,500 dollars gross (15,103,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997;

19. Decides also that the appropriation for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997 under the Special Account referred to in paragraph 18 above shall be financed according to the methodology established by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

20. Decides further that Member States shall waive their respective shares in the remaining credits arising from previous budgets of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda in the amount of 9,201,250 dollars gross (7,551,850 dollars net), to be transferred to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for Rwanda from the Special Account for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda;

21. Decides to apportion the amount of 9,201,250 dollars gross (7,551,850 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments for the year 1997;

22. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 21 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,649,400 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997.

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[106] A/51/7/Add.8 and Corr.1.

ANNEX

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

	Gross	Net
	(United States dollars)	
Amount required for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997 as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 40 of its report	22 002 500	18 703 700
Less: Estimated unencumbered balance for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1997	(3 600 000)	(3 600 000)
Balance: Appropriation to be assessed for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997	18 402 500	15 103 700
Of which: United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda [a]	9 201 250	7 551 850
Assessed amounts [b]	9 201 250	7 551 850

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[a] Refers to the credits arising from previous budgets of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda.

[b] Refers to the contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments for the year 1997.

51/218 E **Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations**

Date: 17 June 1997	Meeting: 102
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/753/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations in respect of the role of the General Assembly in the consideration and approval of budgets of the Organization,

Reaffirming the requirement of all Member States to fulfil promptly and in full their obligations as set out in the Charter,

Recognizing the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, Recognizing also that late payment of assessed contributions adversely affects the short-term financial situation of the Organization,

Recognizing further the need to improve the management of peacekeeping operations,

Desiring to streamline the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of peacekeeping operations,

Reiterating the importance of continuous dialogue and transparency between the Organization and Member States aimed at improving current administrative and budgetary practices and procedures,

I

Contingent-owned equipment

Recalling its resolution 50/222 of 11 April 1996 on the reform of the procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment, and the transitional arrangement,

Reaffirming the importance of proceeding with the implementation of the reformed procedures as called for in its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994,

Taking note of the reports of the Phase II and Phase III Working Groups on Reimbursement of Contingent-owned Equipment [107] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [108]

Also taking note of the clarification given by the Secretary-General on some aspects of the implementation of the new procedures as from 1 July 1996 and the transitional arrangement, [109]

Further taking note of the Contribution Agreement between the United Nations and participating States contributing resources to United Nations peacekeeping operations, [110]

Noting that there are inconsistencies between the reports of the Working Groups [111] and the Contribution Agreement,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Contribution Agreement fully reflects the reports of the Phase II and III Working Groups on Reimbursement of Contingent-owned Equipment and to issue an appropriate corrigendum to the Agreement, and to implement, in full, all the decisions of the General Assembly;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to convene the Phase IV Working Group prior to submitting his report on the first full year of implementation of the reformed procedures;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to include in future cost estimates and performance reports of peacekeeping operations information on the factors mentioned in paragraph 49 of the report of the Phase III Working Group; [112]

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[107] A/C.5/49/66, annex, and A/C.5/49/70, annex.

[108] A/51/646.

[109] See A/50/807.

[110] A/50/995, annex.

[111] A/C.5/49/66, annex, and A/C.5/49/70, annex.

[112] A/C.5/49/70.

4. Reiterates that, for missions activated prior to 1 July 1996, countries have the option to accept reimbursement under either the new or the old reimbursement methodology;

II

Death and disability benefits

Reaffirming the principles enunciated in section II, paragraph 1, of its resolution 49/233 A and in paragraph 1 of its resolution 50/223 of 11 April 1996,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General 113/ and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 114/

1. Decides to adopt a system of self insurance and to establish uniform and standardized rates for payment of awards in cases of death or disability sustained by troops in the service of the United Nations peacekeeping operations, as follows:

(a) A one-time lump-sum award of $50,000 for service-incurred death;

(b) A one-time lump-sum award for service-incurred disability, calculated as a percentage of the award for death according to the degree of loss of function, based on the schedule contained in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General; 115/

2. Also decides that the uniform and standardized rates shall apply to cases of death and disability sustained by troops after 30 June 1997;

3. Further decides to continue the present system of budgeting and financing for death and disability compensation and to keep its functioning and use under review, taking into account actual experience in the implementation of the new uniform and standardized rates;

4. Reaffirms that the purpose of uniform and standardized rates for payment of awards in cases of death and disability is to ensure equal treatment of all contingent troops;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to seek assurances from Member States that amounts payable to beneficiaries for incidents referred to in the present resolution shall be not less than the amounts paid or reimbursed to Member States for this purpose under paragraphs 1 (a) and (b) above, so as to avoid unequal treatment of contingent troops by Member States;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly no later than 31 October 1997, containing detailed implementation proposals, including administrative and payment arrangements and procedures, as well as proposals for administrative resource reductions resulting from this new, simplified system;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue processing all claims for death and disability compensation as expeditiously as possible for their speedy settlement;

113/ A/49/906 and Corr.1 and A/50/1009.

114/ A/50/684 and A/51/646.

115/ A/49/906 and Corr.1.

III

Management review officers and roving finance officers

Recalling section X, paragraph 3, of its resolution 49/233 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General 116/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 117/

Bearing in mind that accountability for peacekeeping programmes rests with authorities at Headquarters and in the field,

1. Calls upon the Secretary-General to establish procedures whereby the position descriptions of Secretariat personnel responsible for such financial operations in field missions as financial planning, financial management, operational support and review and control will include oversight for those specific missions, so that those personnel may perform the functions outlined in paragraph 7 of his report; 118/

2. Further calls upon the Secretary-General to include the function of "trouble shooter", as outlined in paragraph 10 of his report, 119/ in the position description of staff members at Headquarters overseeing the functional area, so as to provide this service as needed by the various field missions;

3. Endorses the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee with respect to the concepts of roving finance officer and management review officer; 120/

4. Requests the Secretary-General to include in the budgets of specific peacekeeping operations information on these functions, to be examined by the Advisory Committee and the General Assembly on a case-by-case basis;

IV

Mission subsistence allowance

Recalling section VIII of its resolution 49/233 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on entitlements of staff assigned to peacekeeping missions, including mission subsistence allowance, 121/ and the oral report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 122/

1. Requests the Secretary-General to phase out over a period of six months the supplement to the mission subsistence allowance paid to senior officials;

116/ A/50/983.

117/ A/51/646.

118/ A/50/983.

119/ Ibid.

120/ See A/51/646, paras. 9-15.

121/ A/50/797.

122/ A/C.5/51/SR.23, para. 26.

2. Requests the International Civil Service Commission to develop, for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, a proposal to provide a post allowance and separate maintenance allowance for those personnel who leave their families at their home duty station while they are on mission assignment;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, as an interim measure pending a review of mission allowance criteria, to administer mission subsistence allowance on the basis of a seven-day, rather than a five-day, week;

V

Rates of reimbursement

Recalling section III, paragraph 2, of its resolution 47/218 A of 23 December 1992,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General 123/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 124/

1. Endorses paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 125/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out a new survey of troop-contributing States as suggested in paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee 126/ and to include in that report a complete analysis of all services being provided to troops, together with an indication of the rationale for the provision of each service and how those services are administered and accounted for;

3. Encourages all troop-contributing States to respond to the questionnaire sent out by the Secretary-General requesting information on military costs in effect as at 31 December 1996;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to keep this matter under review and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

VI

Peacekeeping Reserve Fund

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General 127/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 128/

Noting that its resolution 47/217 of 23 December 1992 does not include the twenty States which became Members of the United Nations after the adoption of resolution 45/247 of 21 December 1990 and before the adoption of resolution 47/217,

1. Decides to extend the application of resolution 47/217, by which it established the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund, to all States currently Members of the United Nations;

123/ A/48/912.

124/ A/50/1012.

125/ Ibid.

126/ Ibid.

127/ A/51/778.

128/ A/51/845.

2. Notes that Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan can be said to have a claim to a share in the Fund as explained in the report of the Secretary-General; 129/

3. Decides that, beginning on 1 January 1998 and no later than 30 June 1998, the shares in the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund of the following Member States shall be determined as follows:

(a) The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Korea and San Marino shall contribute their shares to the Fund in accordance with the scale of apportionment for peacekeeping operations in effect on the date of their first assessment for United Nations peacekeeping operations;

(b) Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania shall contribute their shares to the Fund in accordance with the scale of apportionment for peacekeeping operations in effect on the date of their first assessment after 1 January 1998 for United Nations peacekeeping operations;

4. Further decides that interests accrued in the Fund shall not be credited to Member States holding shares in the Fund prior to the full capitalization of the Fund;

VII

Voluntary contributions

Recalling its resolutions on the financing of peacekeeping operations, in which it invites voluntary contributions to those operations in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered as appropriate, in accordance with the established procedure 130/ and practices,

Taking note of the intention of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to address in a report the question of the articulation of voluntary contributions within proposed budgets and performance reports of peacekeeping operations, 131/

1. Welcomes the intention of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to address issues related to the administration of voluntary contributions to peacekeeping operations in a later report;

2. Requests the Advisory Committee to prepare its report on the administration of voluntary contributions to peacekeeping operations before 31 December 1997;

3. Decides to consider the report of the Advisory Committee during the first week of the first part of its resumed fifty-second session;

129/ A/51/778.

130/ Resolution 44/192 A of 21 December 1989.

131/ See A/51/850, para. 12.

VIII

United Nations Logistics Base, Brindisi

Recalling its decision 50/500 of 17 September 1996 and pending consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, 132/

1. Regrets the late submission by the Secretary-General of his report on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi; 133/

2. Decides to undertake a detailed review of the reports of the Secretary-General and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Logistics Base at its fifty-second session, no later than 15 October 1997;

3. Authorizes the Secretary-General, in the interim period, from 1 July to 15 October 1997, to commit funds not exceeding the current level of expenditures for the last three months for the maintenance of the United Nations Logistics Base;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to finalize, in this context, the proposals on the management of United Nations peacekeeping assets and on the role of the United Nations Logistics Base.

51/225 Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Date: 3 April 1997	Meeting: 95
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/849

The General Assembly,

Having considered, for the period ended 31 December 1995, the financial reports and audited financial statements of the United Nations, including United Nations peacekeeping operations, the International Trade Centre and the United Nations University, 134/ the United Nations Development Programme, 135/ the United Nations Children's Fund, 136/ the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, 137/ the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, 138/ the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 139/ the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, 140/ the United Nations Population Fund, 141/ the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, 142/ the Fund of the United Nations

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132/ A/50/907 and A/51/905.

133/ A/51/905.

134/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, sects. I and V; vol. II, sects. I and V; vol. III, sect. IV; vol. IV, sects. I and V.

135/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5A (A/51/5/Add.1), sects. I and IV.

136/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5B (A/51/5/Add.2), sects. I and IV.

137/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5C (A/51/5/Add.3), sects. I and V.

138/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5D (A/51/5/Add.4), sects. I and V.

139/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5E (A/51/5/Add.5), sects. III and V.

140/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5F (A/51/5/Add.6), sects. I and V.

141/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5G (A/51/5/Add.7), sects. I and V.

142/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5H (A/51/5/Add.8), sects. I and IV.

International Drug Control Programme 143/ and the United Nations Office for Project Services, 144/ the reports and audit opinions of the Board of Auditors, 145/ the concise summary of the principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board of Auditors 146/ and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 147/

A

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on measures taken or to be taken to implement the current recommendations of the Board of Auditors 148/ and of the responses of the executive heads of the United Nations organizations and programmes 149/ to the recommendations of the Board,

Taking note also of the reports of the Secretary-General on accounting standards 150/ and on the inventory control system for non-expendable property at Headquarters, 151/

Expressing deep concern about the persistence of problems and defects in the financial administration and management of the United Nations observed by the Board of Auditors,

Noting with concern the observation by the Board of Auditors that there had been no significant improvement in effective budgetary control with regard to Trust Funds, despite the Board having drawn attention to this problem in its report for the biennium ended 31 December 1993,

Emphasizing the need to improve implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as approved by the General Assembly,

Commending the Board of Auditors for carrying out its reviews in a comprehensive and efficient manner, in line with regulation 12.5 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations,

1. Accepts the financial reports and audited financial statements and the audit opinions and reports of the Board regarding the aforementioned organizations, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. Also accepts the concise summary of principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board of Auditors, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

143/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5I (A/51/5/Add.9), sects. I and V.

144/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5J (A/51/5/Add.10), sects. I and IV.

145/ Ibid., Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, sects. II and III; vol. II, sects. II and III; vol. III, sects. I and II; vol. IV, sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5A (A/51/5/Add.1), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5B (A/51/5/Add.2), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5C (A/51/5/Add.3), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5D (A/51/5/Add.4), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5E (A/51/5/Add.5), sects. I and II; ibid., Supplement No. 5F (A/51/5/Add.6), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5G (A/51/5/Add.7), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5H (A/51/5/Add.8), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5I (A/51/5/Add.9), sects. II and III; ibid., Supplement No. 5J (A/51/5/Add.10), sects. II and III.

146/ A/51/283, annex.

147/ A/51/533.

148/ A/51/488 and Add.1.

149/ A/51/488/Add.2.

150/ A/51/523.

151/ A/C.5/50/51.

3. _Notes with serious concern_ that the Board of Auditors has qualified its audit opinion on the financial statements of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

4. _Requests_ the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes mentioned in paragraph 3 above to take steps to rectify the situation in order to avoid another qualification during the next audit;

5. _Reiterates_ its request that the Board of Auditors continue its audit coverage of all peacekeeping operations;

6. _Approves_ all the recommendations and conclusions of the Board of Auditors and the comments thereon contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [152] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

7. _Requests_ the Board of Auditors to indicate more clearly in its future reports those recommendations which have not been fully implemented and to point out, with greater precision, incidences of malpractice and violations of rules and regulations;

8. _Also requests_ the Board of Auditors to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session proposals for improving the implementation, by the Secretary-General and the executive heads of funds and programmes, of the recommendations of the Board, as approved by the Assembly, and for possible changes in progress reporting on such implementation;

9. _Notes with concern_ the delays in submission of the reports of the Board of Auditors and the reports of the Secretary-General on implementation of the recommendations of the Board through the Advisory Committee to the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary financial and administrative support is provided to ensure the timeliness of the transmission of those reports in the future;

10. _Requests_ the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes to provide timely responses to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and reiterates its request that the reports on measures taken or to be taken in response to the recommendations of the Board include timetables for their implementation;

11. _Notes with deep concern_ the incidents of fraud and presumed fraud reported by the Board of Auditors;

12. _Requests_ the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations concerned to take the necessary disciplinary measures in cases of proven fraud and to enhance the individual accountability of United Nations personnel, including stronger managerial control;

13. _Requests_ the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on measures taken to enhance accountability;

14. _Notes with satisfaction_ the improvement in internal audit functions and structures in the United Nations, including the level of professional expertise, and requests the executive heads of those funds and programmes which continue to suffer deficiencies in this regard to take appropriate corrective measures;

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[152] A/51/533.

15. Emphasizes the need for greater transparency and stricter controls for trust funds, including by ensuring, in particular, that expenditure from trust funds should not be incurred without the receipt of the corresponding income, nor on the basis of reimbursement to other accounts or the regular budget;

16. Welcomes the efforts made by organizations in the biennium 1994-1995 to comply with the United Nations common accounting standards;

17. Notes, however, that further work needs to be done in the biennium 1996-1997 to bring the financial statements fully in line with the United Nations common accounting standards, and requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations organizations and programmes to pursue efforts to ensure full compliance with the standards, in particular the disclosure of valuation of property and cash held in non-convertible currencies, calculation and disclosure of the end-of-service liability for termination benefits and better disclosure of delays in the collection of assessed contributions;

18. Takes note of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning budgetary assumptions used in the preparation of biennial programme budgets 153/ and the comments of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee thereon, 154/ and requests them to keep the matter under review;

19. Takes note also of the comments of the Board of Auditors on the need to improve performance reporting, and concurs with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee 155/ that the Secretary-General should work towards improving the format of reports, in particular, by providing more up-to-date information relating to actual expenditure figures;

20. Stresses the importance of the timely completion of the self-evaluation of subprogrammes, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure better coverage and monitoring of self-evaluations;

21. Requests the Board of Auditors, the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Joint Inspection Unit to maintain and enhance, whenever possible, their cooperation, while respecting the clear distinction between internal and external oversight responsibilities;

22. Regrets that there was a steady decline in net income from revenue-producing activities during the biennium 1994-1995;

23. Also regrets that the United Nations Postal Administration and the services to visitors incurred net losses during the biennium 1994-1995, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to redress the situation and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

24. Decides to consider the other substantive findings and recommendations of the Board of Auditors under the relevant items of the agenda, and decides also to consider in future, where appropriate, the substantive findings and recommendations of the Board under the relevant items of the agenda;

B

Expressing concern at the failure of some implementing and executing agencies to comply with funding and project agreements concluded with United Nations funds and programmes,

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153/ See A/51/488, paras. 6-11.

154/ See A/51/488, paras. 6-13, and A/51/533, paras. 39 and 40.

155/ A/51/533, para. 41.

1. *Notes with deep concern* the serious irregular financial practices in the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the decision by the management of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to divert $900,000 from the Foundation's funds in order to meet the financing requirements for the preparatory activities of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

2. *Draws the attention* of the Commission on Human Settlements to these irregularities with a view to its requesting immediate corrective action at its sixteenth session;

3. *Notes* the actions taken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee at its forty-seventh session 156/ with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

4. *Welcomes* initiatives by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to improve the procedure for selecting implementing partners and auditing their activities, and emphasizes the need for improvement in the process of selecting implementing and executing partners by other funds and programmes;

5. *Notes with grave concern* the serious problems identified with regard to the United Nations Development Programme reserve for field accommodation;

6. *Notes* the actions taken by the Administrator and the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme 157/ with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

7. *Notes also* the actions taken by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund and its Executive Board 158/ with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

8. *Takes note* of the recommendation that the United Nations Children's Fund review its policy of recording cash assistance in connection with programme expenditures for consistency with financial regulations and programme management procedures and notes the finding that financial control over cash assistance was not being fully achieved;

9. *Takes note also* of the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the report of the Board of Auditors, and its request that the Executive Director implement the necessary corrective actions recommended by the Board before the end of the biennium 1996-1997; 159/

10. *Notes with great concern* the serious problems in the United Nations Environment Programme reported by the Board of Auditors, including the fact that eight out of twelve projects audited had suffered cost overruns and nine had time overruns because of difficulties in identifying consultants;

11. *Draws the attention* of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to these irregularities with a view to its requesting immediate corrective action at its next scheduled sessions;

156/ See A/AC.96/869/Add.1, paras. 4-7, and A/51/12/Add.1, para. 25.

157/ See DP/1997/3, DP/1997/6 and Executive Board decision 97/3.

158/ E/ICEF/1997/12, part I, and decision 1997/10, para. 12.

159/ Decision 19/26.

12. Notes the actions taken by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund 160/ with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors.

51/226 Human resources management

Date: 3 April 1997
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 95
Report: A/51/643/Add.2

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 8, 97, 100 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolutions 47/226 of 8 April 1993 and 49/222 A and B of 23 December 1994 and 20 July 1995, and its other relevant resolutions and decisions,

Bearing in mind the views expressed by Member States on human resources management questions in the Fifth Committee during the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, 161/

Having considered the relevant reports on human resources management questions submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, 162/

Having considered also the relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, 163/

Having heard the views expressed by the staff representative in the Fifth Committee in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/213 of 17 December 1980, 164/

Reaffirming that the staff of the Organization is an invaluable asset of the United Nations, and commending its contribution to furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Paying tribute to the memory of all staff members who have lost their lives in the service of the Organization,

1. Reiterates its full support for the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer of the Organization, and underlines its full respect for his prerogatives and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations;

2. Reaffirms its support for the integrity and independence of the international civil service, and notes the efforts of the Secretary-General to preserve these;

160/ See DP/FPA/1997/4 and decision 97/2.

161/ See A/C.5/51/SR.7, 9-11, 13, 14, 16, 21, 23, 25, 26, 30, 31, 34, 37, 46, 49-51 and 55.

162/ A/51/304 and Corr.1, A/51/421 and Corr.1 and 2, A/C.5/49/63, A/C.5/49/64, A/C.5/50/64, A/C.5/51/1, A/C.5/51/6 and A/C.5/51/34.

163/ A/51/656, annex, and A/51/705, annex.

164/ See A/C.5/51/SR.51.

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES OF THE ORGANIZATION

Recalling the Secretary-General's strategy for the management of the human resources of the Organization, [165]

Welcoming the adoption by the Secretary-General of the concept of an integrated approach to human resources planning and management, as reflected in his strategy,

Reaffirming the importance of the staff-management consultative process to the functioning and activities of the Secretariat,

1. Notes the steps taken to implement a number of elements of the strategy for the management of the human resources of the Organization as set out in the report of the Secretary-General; [166]

2. Regrets with deep concern that further progress in the implementation of the adopted strategy has not been achieved, and urges the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to ensure its full implementation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

3. Regrets the unsuccessful efforts to develop a management environment and culture in the Organization that enables staff members to contribute their maximum potential, effectiveness and efficiency;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to pursue the full implementation of his strategy, bearing in mind the provisions of the present resolution, as soon as possible;

5. Notes, in this connection, the phasing-in of performance management, including the introduction in 1996 of a new performance appraisal system;

II. ROLE OF THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OF THE SECRETARIAT

Reaffirming its resolution 48/218 A of 23 December 1993, in particular the request for a mechanism ensuring that programme managers are accountable for the effective management of the human resources allocated to them,

Noting with appreciation that the Joint Inspection Unit in its report of 5 November 1996 [167] has dealt with recruitment, placement and promotion policies in a comprehensive manner,

Reiterating the authority and responsibility of the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat to enforce recruitment, placement and promotion policies throughout the Secretariat,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on staff representational activities, [168]

1. Recognizes the role of the Office of Human Resources Management as the primary representative of the Secretary-General in establishing human resources policies and guidelines, and strongly requests the Secretary-General to maintain its central policy authority;

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[165] See A/C.5/49/5.

[166] A/C.5/51/1.

[167] A/51/656, annex.

[168] A/C.5/49/63, A/C.5/49/64, A/C.5/50/64 and A/C.5/51/6.

2. Requests the Secretary-General to enhance managerial accountability with respect to human resources management decisions, including imposing sanctions in cases of demonstrated mismanagement of staff, wilful neglect of or disregard for established rules and procedures, while safeguarding the due process rights of all staff members, including managers;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to issue specific administrative instructions to establish clearly the responsibility and accountability of programme managers for proper use of human resources, as well as sanctions in accordance with staff rule 112.3 for any financial loss suffered by the United Nations as a result of gross negligence, including improper motivation, wilful violation or reckless disregard of the Staff Regulations and Rules and established policies regulating recruitment, placement and promotion;

4. Deplores the high number of exceptions to the established procedures for the recruitment, placement and promotion of staff, in particular in the Office of Human Resources Management;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to announce all vacancies so as to give equal opportunity to all qualified staff and to encourage mobility, it being understood that the discretionary power of the Secretary-General of appointment and promotion outside the established procedures should be limited to his Executive Office and the Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General levels, as well as Special Envoys at all levels;

6. Welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to streamline administrative procedures and eliminate duplication, in relation to human resources management, through delegation of authority to programme managers, and requests him to ensure, before delegating such authority, that well-designed mechanisms of accountability, including the necessary internal monitoring and control procedures, as well as training, are put in place, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to expedite the simplification and streamlining of all personnel rules and procedures in order to make them transparent and easier to apply, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

8. Reaffirms the need for the Secretary-General to use, to the fullest extent, the staff-management consultative mechanisms set out in staff rule 108.2 and to strengthen the staff-management dialogue in the United Nations and all of its funds and programmes, and requests him to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 provision to the Office of Human Resources Management of the level of resources commensurate with the mandate set out above;

10. Recalls that the functions of staff representatives are official;

11. Also recalls that elected staff representatives are staff members of the United Nations;

12. Recognizes the fact that staff representatives are entitled to an opportunity for career advancement, decides that the period of their continuous release shall not exceed four years, and also decides to limit such release to elected staff representatives only, on either a full-time or a part-time basis;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly a report on the practice of Member States relative to the financing of national staff representation, and on the proportion of representation of staff;

III. HUMAN RESOURCES PLANNING, RECRUITMENT, STATUS OF WOMEN AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Recalling Articles 8 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

A. Human resources planning

Emphasizing the importance of human resources planning to both recruitment and career development,

1. Takes note of the preliminary work in human resources planning, especially in the projection of recruitment needs at the entry level from 1997 to 2001, and requests that these activities be continued and expanded;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with relevant staff rules and regulations, to use, to the greatest extent possible, existing mechanisms, such as agreed termination or granting leave without pay, to create opportunities for upward mobility for existing staff and for recruiting new staff;

B. Recruitment

Stressing the vital importance of the recruitment of new staff to meet the needs of the Organization,

1. Reaffirms that no post should be considered the exclusive preserve of any Member State or group of States, including at the highest level;

2. Recognizes that the system of desirable ranges is the mechanism for the recruitment of staff in posts subject to geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to take every available measure to ensure, at the senior and policy-making levels of the Secretariat, the equitable representation of Member States, in particular of developing countries and Member States with inadequate representation at those levels, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and to include relevant information in future reports on the composition of the Secretariat;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General, in this regard, to exercise flexibility in the application of desirable ranges in individual recruitment cases, bearing in mind all parts of the present resolution;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the primary criteria in the recruitment of staff;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, while ensuring that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the primary criteria in the recruitment of staff, to ensure also that the search for and selection of candidates are conducted in accordance with the guiding principles of achieving equitable geographical distribution and providing equal opportunity for men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in the work of the Secretariat;

7. Reaffirms that secondment from government service is consistent with Articles 100 and 101 of the Charter and beneficial to both the Organization and Member States, and urges the Secretary-General to pursue this practice on a wider scale, as appropriate;

8. Notes the efforts of the Secretary-General to conduct a targeted search for candidates from Member States that are unrepresented or under-represented and below the mid-point of their desirable ranges, and requests that he continue to expand these efforts;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to restrict the practice of temporary appointments against regular budget or extrabudgetary posts of one year or more to temporary needs, for example, replacement of staff on field mission assignment and authorized leave;

10. Also requests the Secretary-General to take effective measures to prevent the placement of staff members against higher-level unencumbered posts for periods longer than three months, and further requests the Secretary-General to issue vacancy announcements within a three-month period;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to instruct all programme managers to inform the Office of Human Resources Management of all vacancies immediately and of all foreseen vacancies six months before the post becomes vacant;

12. Notes that the posts subject to the desirable range formula are limited to the current level of 2,700 posts;

13. Requests that the Secretary-General should not include staff members recruited against support account posts in the desirable range calculation;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to apply the requirements of Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter to recruit staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible to all posts outside the desirable ranges;

15. Reaffirms the policy of the Secretary-General that appointment to P-1 and P-2 posts and to posts requiring special language competence shall be made exclusively through competitive examination and that appointment to posts at the P-3 level shall normally be made through competitive examination;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to hold national competitive examinations for posts at the P-2 and P-3 levels as a useful tool for selecting the best qualified candidates from inadequately represented Member States; special attention should be paid to the prospects of staff for promotion to the P-3 level and to the need to conduct such examinations with maximum efficiency and economy;

17. Invites the Member States concerned to participate in those examinations;

18. Requests the Secretary-General not to decrease the proportion of entrance-level posts at the P-1 to P-3 levels for budgetary purposes;

19. Also requests the Secretary-General, notwithstanding the provisions of section V of the present resolution, to offer or to continue to offer probationary appointments to all staff members who have successfully passed a competitive recruitment examination and to consider all such staff members for conversion to permanent appointment after completion of the period of probationary service;

20. Further requests the Secretary-General, in the case of staff recruited through competitive examinations, to ensure that only those who meet the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity established in the Charter are granted permanent appointments;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to complete the realignment to the national competitive examinations of the competitive examination for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories, in particular regarding academic qualifications;

22. Also requests the Secretary-General to make proposals on the introduction of a probationary period for successful candidates in the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories;

23. Further requests the Secretary-General to report on the question of geographical imbalance resulting from promotions through the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories to posts subject to geographical distribution;

24. Urges the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures, including instructions to department heads, as needed, to place all successful candidates from the national competitive examinations within one year, subject to the availability of posts;

25. Requests the Secretary-General to accord priority consideration to successful candidates from the national competitive examinations who have not been placed within one year for all other vacancies, including those of short duration;

26. Also requests the Secretary-General to extend the current practice of barring interns from applying for or being appointed to posts in the Secretariat during a period of six months after the end of their internships to consultants and personnel provided on a non-reimbursable basis, and also requests that persons filling regular budget posts or extrabudgetary posts on short-term appointments of one year or more be barred from applying for or being appointed to their current post within six months of the end of their current service;

27. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that persons serving in peacekeeping or other field missions become eligible for consideration for internal vacancies in the Secretariat after having served for at least twelve months; should they be considered for appointment, established recruitment criteria and relevant rules shall apply;

28. Requests the Secretary-General to resume normal recruitment activities at all levels as soon as possible;

C. Status of women in the Secretariat

Reaffirming that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibility for administrative, budgetary and human resources management matters, including, in this context, the question of the representation of women in the Secretariat,

Welcoming the achievement of the goal of a 35 per cent overall participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution,

Noting with concern that the goal set in its resolution 45/239 C of 21 December 1990 of a 25 per cent participation rate of women in posts at the D-1 level and above by 1995 is still far from being achieved,

Recalling its resolution 51/67 of 12 December 1996, including the reaffirmation of the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the year 2000,

Concerned that this goal may not be met, especially at the policy-making and decision-making levels of D-1 and above,

Noting that the overall percentage of representation of women in all Professional posts was 33.66 per cent as at 31 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the Secretary-General in his efforts to achieve this goal should take into account the principle that the paramount consideration shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution,

1. Urges the Secretary-General fully to implement and monitor the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat 1995-2000; [169]

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[169] A/49/587 and Corr.1, sect. IV.

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his work to create a gender-sensitive work environment, through the implementation of all appropriate human resources management policies and procedures, ensuring that managers are evaluated on their activities in this regard in the context of the performance appraisal system;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to develop a family leave programme for United Nations staff without creating supplementary leave entitlements, and to report thereon to the General Assembly as soon as possible;

4. Decides to consider the structure and source of funding for the Focal Point for Women in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999, and requests the Secretary-General to make proposals in this regard with a view to ensuring the provision of an adequate level of resources commensurate with the mandate;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures, as soon as possible, to allow the mandate of the Focal Point for Women to be fulfilled;

6. Encourages the Secretary-General, consistent with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to appoint more women at the D-1 level and above so as to reduce the gender gap and to reach the mandated General Assembly target of 25 per cent women in senior decision-making-level positions as soon as possible;

7. Urges the Secretary-General, consistent with Article 101 of the Charter, to increase the number of women employed in the Secretariat from developing countries, in particular those which are unrepresented or under-represented and from countries that have a low representation of women, including countries with economies in transition;

8. Strongly encourages Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to increase the percentage of women in Professional posts, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and regularly presenting more women candidates and by encouraging women to apply for posts in the Secretariat of the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

D. Career development

Recognizing that career development is an indispensable part of effective human resources management,

Noting with concern the absence of progress in developing a fully integrated career development system,

1. Regrets that the Secretary-General has not yet established a career development policy in the Secretariat, and requests him to establish such a policy as soon as possible and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to meet the goals and objectives set by the General Assembly in various resolutions by establishing as a matter of priority a comprehensive career development and promotion system;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on how linguistic qualifications are taken into account in the performance appraisal system and the recruitment and promotion policy, including for language staff;

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the feasibility of holding the national competitive examinations in the six official languages, without prejudice to the mandatory knowledge of English and French as working languages;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals aimed at ensuring that nationals of Member States whose mother tongue is not an official or working language of the United Nations are not placed at a disadvantage when taking national competitive examinations;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to pursue the development and implementation of the managed reassignment programmes for entry-level and other staff as outlined in his report on the implementation of his strategy, 170/ and to budget the required posts accordingly;

7. *Notes* that only modest progress has been made towards achieving greater staff mobility for internationally recruited staff as called for in the strategy, and reiterates the importance of making substantive progress towards that objective;

8. *Regrets* that the report on mobility requested in section V, paragraph 2, of resolution 49/222 A has not yet been submitted to the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to submit that report to the Assembly at its fifty-third session;

9. *Notes with concern* the fact that delays in completion of performance appraisal reports have an adverse effect on staff members being considered by the appointment and promotion bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure that the managers preparing the reports are held accountable for any such delays;

10. *Requests* that, to the extent possible for a fair evaluation of staff members, the recruitment and promotion procedure not be postponed to the detriment of staff members for want of performance appraisal reports;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to utilize the performance appraisal system to foster staff-management dialogue, including the identification of staff development and career opportunities, and to report to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-first session on the findings of the review of the first cycle of the performance appraisal system;

12. *Stresses* the fact that the new performance appraisal system is only one of the elements of a comprehensive career development plan in the Secretariat;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the strengthened training programmes, *inter alia*, people management training, upgrading of substantive skills, information technology, communications and training in all six official languages on an equal basis, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to invest in the Organization's future capacity by sustaining and expanding these programmes in order to meet organizational needs and individual career development aspirations;

14. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's intention to strengthen further the professional training of the staff, so as to foster management capacity and to ensure that staff continue to receive necessary refresher training over the course of their careers;

IV. REDEPLOYMENT

1. *Notes* the impact of the economy measures on the personnel policies of the Organization;

2. *Recognizes* the need to maintain an adequate environment in the Secretariat and to sustain the morale of staff members;

170/ A/C.5/51/1, paras. 29-31.

3. Reiterates its request contained in paragraph 12 of its resolution 51/221 B of 18 December 1996 and decides to consider the report on the situation of staff members on the redeployment list as a matter of priority during the next part of its resumed fifty-first session;

4. Recognizes that measures related to personnel matters invoked in order to obtain savings should not entail changes in the Staff Regulations and Rules without the prior approval of the General Assembly;

V. RATIO BETWEEN CAREER AND FIXED-TERM APPOINTMENTS

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the ratio between career and fixed-term appointments, 171/

1. Underlines the importance of the concept of career service for staff members performing continuing core functions;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to make efforts to achieve the level of 70 per cent of permanent appointments in geographical posts and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

3. Decides that five years of continuing service as stipulated in its resolution 37/126 of 17 December 1982 do not confer the automatic right to a permanent appointment, and also decides that other considerations, such as outstanding performance, the operational realities of the organizations and the core functions of the post, should be duly taken into account;

4. Endorses in principle the introduction of a dual-track system of career and non-career appointments, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session detailed proposals for the implementation of that system, including a definition of continuing core functions with a full explanation of the manner in which such a definition would be applied, and the text of any necessary amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules that would be required in order to implement the new system;

VI. CONSULTANTS

Having considered the summary of the principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board of Auditors 172/ and the related comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 173/

Noting with deep concern that, despite repeated recommendations by the Board, serious irregularities persist in the identification, terms of reference, hiring, remuneration and management of consultants, including lack of geographical balance,

1. Expresses its concern about the practice of using consultants to carry out functions assigned to established posts, and requests the Secretary-General to refrain from this practice;

2. Notes with concern the observations of the Board of Auditors that a number of findings warrant further investigation with a view to taking appropriate action against personnel responsible for such malpractice, 174/ and requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action in this regard and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

171/ A/C.5/51/34.

172/ A/51/283, annex.

173/ See A/51/533.

174/ Ibid., para. 31.

3. Requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations organizations and programmes to ensure selection of consultants on a more competitive basis and to keep the instances of recourse to sole candidates to a strict minimum, each such case being formally approved at an appropriate level of authority, on an exceptional basis, prior to engagement;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to prepare, no later than the end of 1997, comprehensive policy guidelines on the terms of reference (including objectives, targets and output delivery dates), selection, hiring and renewal of consultants and ensuring transparency and objectivity in the selection process, and to submit those guidelines to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for review before their consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session under the item entitled "Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors";

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to revise the assessment form on consultants to make it more detailed and more clearly indicative of the quality of the consultant's work and his or her ability to undertake future assignments;

6. Endorses the recommendations made by the Board of Auditors in its report, 175/ and requests the Secretary-General to implement them;

7. Also endorses the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the Secretariat resume the past practice of submitting, on a biennial basis and in conjunction with the report requested by the Committee on the hiring of retired staff, a report on the hiring and use of consultants, which should follow the format of past reports on the subject; 176/

VII. REPORTING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, under the appropriate agenda items, reports on the following questions:

(a) As soon as possible

A family leave programme for United Nations staff;

(b) At the resumed fifty-first session

The findings of the review of the first cycle of the performance appraisal system;

(c) At the fifty-second session

(i) The appropriate action taken against personnel responsible for malpractices identified by the Board of Auditors;

(ii) Comprehensive policy guidelines on consultants, to be submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(d) At the fifty-third session

(i) Information on measures taken to ensure equitable representation of Member States at the senior and policy-making levels of the Secretariat, to be included in the report on the composition of the Secretariat;

175/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, chap. II, paras. 155-189.

176/ A/51/533, para. 44.

(ii) The full implementation of the strategy for the management of the human resources of the Organization;

(iii) Delegation of authority;

(iv) The simplification and streamlining of all personnel rules and procedures;

(v) Staff-management consultative mechanisms;

(vi) The practice of Member States relative to national staff representation;

(vii) Proposals on the introduction of a probationary period for successful candidates in the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories;

(viii) The question of geographical imbalance resulting from promotions of successful candidates in the competitive examinations for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories;

(ix) Career development policy;

(x) Linguistic qualifications in the context of the performance appraisal system and the recruitment and promotion policy;

(xi) The feasibility of holding national competitive examinations in the six official languages, including proposals to ensure that Member States whose mother tongue is not an official language of the United Nations are not placed at a disadvantage;

(xii) Mobility;

(xiii) The efforts made by the Secretary-General to achieve the level of 70 per cent of permanent appointments in geographical posts;

(xiv) Detailed proposals for the implementation of a dual-track system of career and non-career appointments;

(xv) The hiring of retirees and the hiring and use of consultants.

51/227 Respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations

Date: 3 April 1997	Meeting: 95
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/643/Add.2

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, under Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, all officials of the Organization shall enjoy in the territory of each of its Members such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with the Organization,

Also recalling that, under Article 100 of the Charter, each Member of the United Nations undertakes to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities, Further recalling the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, 177/ the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, 178/ the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Atomic Energy Agency 179/ and the United Nations Development Programme standard basic assistance agreements,

Stressing that respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies is becoming even more imperative owing to the growing number of assignments entrusted by Member States to the organizations of the United Nations system,

Recalling its resolution 76 (I) of 7 December 1946, in which it approved the granting of the privileges and immunities referred to in articles V and VII of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations to all members of the staff of the United Nations, with the exception of those who are recruited locally and are assigned to hourly rates,

Also recalling its resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988, to which is annexed the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, including the principle that all persons under arrest or detention shall be provided whenever necessary with medical care and treatment,

Reiterating the obligation of all officials of the Organization in the conduct of their duties to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization,

Mindful of the responsibility of the Secretary-General to safeguard the functional immunity of all United Nations officials,

Mindful also of the importance in this respect of the immediate provision by Member States of adequate information concerning the arrest and detention of staff members and, more particularly, of their granting of access to them,

Bearing in mind the responsibility of the Secretary-General to guarantee appropriate standards of justice and due process to United Nations officials,

Recalling the relevant conventions and also its resolutions 49/59 of 9 December 1994, in which it adopted the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and 51/137 of 13 December 1996,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations as well as their security and safety, 180/ and of the statement made to the Fifth Committee by the United Nations Security Coordinator on 15 October 1996; 181/

2. Expresses its deep appreciation to United Nations personnel, including those engaged in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations, and locally recruited staff, for their efforts to contribute to achieving peace and security and to alleviating the suffering of the people living in areas of conflict;

3. Deplores the risks confronting United Nations personnel, including those engaged in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations, and locally recruited staff;

177/ Resolution 22 A (I).

178/ Resolution 179 (II).

179/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 347, p.147.

180/ A/C.5/51/3.

181/ See A/C.5/51/SR.7.

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations as well as their security and safety;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to pay special attention to Member States' restrictions, which may impede the ability of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations to carry out their functions, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

51/228 Financing of the Military Observer Group of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

Date: 3 April 1997	Meeting: 95
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/844

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Military Observer Group of the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala [182] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [183]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1094 (1997) of 20 January 1997, by which the Council authorized the attachment to the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala of a group of 155 military observers and requisite medical personnel for a period of three months,

Recognizing that the costs of the Observer Group are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observer Group, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Group with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

2. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Group in full and on time;

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[182] A/51/815.

[183] A/51/826.

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3. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; [184]

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Group is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Observer Group in accordance with paragraph 15 of his report; [185]

6. Decides to appropriate the amount of 4 million United States dollars gross (3,956,300 dollars net) for the operation of the Observer Group for the period from 15 February to 31 May 1997, inclusive of the amount of 3 million dollars gross (2,949,300 dollars net) already authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994;

7. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 4 million dollars gross (3,956,300 dollars net) for the period from 15 February to 31 May 1997 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995;

8. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 43,700 dollars approved for the Observer Group for the period from 15 February to 31 May 1997;

9. Invites voluntary contributions to the Observer Group in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the Military Observer Group of the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala".

51/231 Procurement reform

Date: 13 June 1997 Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote Report: A/51/922

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/216 C of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/479 of 11 April 1996, as well as its previous relevant resolutions,

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[184] A/51/826.

[185] A/51/815

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on procurement reform 186/ and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 187/

Having also considered the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on procurement for the period from 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996, 188/ on the audit of procurement handled by the Contracts and Procurement Service of the Department for Development Support and Management Services of the Secretariat, 189/ on the investigation of the alleged misappropriation of United Nations assets at the United Nations Gift Centre 190/ and on the audit of Headquarters catering operations, 191/

Having further considered the concise summary of the principal findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 192/ especially paragraphs 20 to 36 thereof, as regards procurement, in conjunction with comments on the subject contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 193/ and the measures proposed by the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning procurement, 194/

Noting the progress made in the efforts to prepare a new Procurement Manual,

Noting with concern the continuing weaknesses and deficiencies in the area of procurement,

Emphasizing the importance of establishing a supplier roster on as wide a geographical basis as possible,

Noting the observation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 20 of its report, 195/

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on procurement reform 196/ and the reported actions already taken or in progress to implement the reform measures;

2. Regrets that more progress has not been made, in particular, in improving the procedures and the cost-effectiveness of the procurement process and in broadening the representativeness of the supplier base;

3. Welcomes the review by the Board of Auditors of the recommendations previously made by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/216 C on measures to improve the procurement process;

186/ A/C.5/49/67, A/C.5/50/13/Rev.1 and A/C.5/51/9.

187/ A/50/7/Add.13 and A/51/7/Add.3.

188/ A/51/432, annex, sect. II.C.

189/ A/50/945, annex.

190/ A/50/1004.

191/ A/51/802, annex.

192/ A/51/283, annex.

193/ A/51/533, paras. 20-21, 34-36 and 52-60.

194/ A/51/488, paras. 15-19, and A/51/488/Add.1, paras. 4-7, 14-21 and 26.

195/ A/51/7/Add.3.

196/ A/C.5/49/67, A/C.5/50/13/Rev.1 and A/C.5/51/9.

4. *Takes note* of the observations and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 197/ and endorses in particular the recommendation that procurement reform should be given the highest priority in the United Nations and its funds and programmes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite efforts to develop a single format for the provision of data and a common reporting system for procurement undertaken in the field and at Headquarters under the responsibility of the Secretary-General, in order to produce a complete set of statistics to be included in future reports on procurement to the General Assembly;

6. *Expresses concern* that over the last two years eight procurement-related arbitration claims have been instituted against the United Nations, totalling more than 90 million United States dollars, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a comprehensive report on procurement-related arbitration cases, taking into account the obligations of the United Nations under the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law; 198/

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in future reports on procurement also information on arbitration cases and the related costs;

8. *Decides* to revert to the question of the structure of the Procurement and Transportation Division of the Secretariat and the request of the Secretary-General that the Division be headed by a Director at the D-2 level during its consideration of the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fill the vacant posts relating to procurement as soon as possible;

10. *Notes* that there are officers on loan in the Procurement and Transportation Division, and decides to revert to this question during its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on gratis personnel;

11. *Notes also* that a proposal is under consideration to introduce in the United Nations procurement system an incentive regarding equally qualified vendors from Member States;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts made to improve coordination with the United Nations procurement system, and encourages the further strengthening of such coordination;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take further steps to improve the availability and timeliness, including through electronic access, of information relating to current and forthcoming procurement opportunities;

14. *Welcomes* the electronic announcement of United Nations contract awards through Procurement Update, issued by the Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office on the Internet, and encourages the Secretary-General to make further use of this medium;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-general to report through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the establishment of a standard procedure for the preparation of performance evaluation reports on vendors, in particular those with major contracts;

16. *Expresses its concern* about the insufficient use of expertise in procurement planning in eight peacekeeping missions, including the United Nations Protection Force and the United Nations Operation in Somalia, which led to payments for aircraft services not utilized, assessed at 2.4 million United States dollars

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197/ A/50/7/Add.13 and A/51/7/Add.3.

198/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.V.6.

in the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and 0.4 million dollars in the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia;

17. Regrets that, owing to deficiencies in procurement planning and failure to indicate specifications clearly, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees suffered a financial loss of about 3 million dollars;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with the investigation of the situation mentioned in paragraphs 16 and 17 of the present resolution and to report thereon through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

19. Endorses the concern of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions about the use of suppliers recommended by requisitioners, notes that this practice undermines the principle of segregation of responsibilities between requesting and procurement entities, and requests the Secretary-General to discontinue that practice;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that in no case will a consultant who has been engaged to prepare specifications and to assist in technical evaluation be allowed to recommend vendors for invitations to bid;

21. Also requests the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to streamline all aspects of the decision-making process in procurement at Headquarters;

22. Notes that the local committees on contracts have the authority to consider cases ranging from 50,000 dollars to 200,000 dollars, while the Headquarters Committee on Contracts will consider cases in amounts above 200,000 dollars;

23. Takes note of the information supplied in paragraphs 93 and 94 of the report of the Board of Auditors, 199/ indicating that 48 per cent of suppliers were from one Member State;

24. Invites Member States to encourage their national suppliers to be registered in the supplier roster;

25. Requests the Secretary-General to expedite the steps being taken to establish a supplier roster on as wide a geographical basis as possible and to submit a report thereon, including a revised list of suppliers, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

26. Emphasizes that concerted efforts should be made to identify potential vendors in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition and to increase the representation from those countries in the bidding for and award of contracts, so as to develop a supplier base that is more representative of the membership of the Organization;

27. Takes note of paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 200/ and decides to revert to this question during its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999;

28. Requests the Secretary-General to take immediate action to ensure compliance with the established procedures for procurement, based on international competitive bidding and the widest possible geographical base of procurement;

199/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/51/5), vol. I, chap. II.

200/ A/51/7/Add.3

29. Appreciates the efforts being made to address the problem of ex post facto cases, in particular for those offices away from Headquarters, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the approval of contracts on an ex post facto basis is kept to the minimum, with full justification for each such case;

30. Requests the Secretary-General to review the possibility of consolidating the procurement functions at United Nations Headquarters and to report thereon to the General Assembly as soon as possible and no later than September 1997;

31. Also requests the Secretary-General to develop an intensified training programme for all procurement personnel of the United Nations Secretariat and all its offices, including field offices of peacekeeping operations, to develop the capacity to dispatch in a timely manner qualified and trained procurement personnel to new or expanded missions and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on measures taken to enhance the training programme;

32. Further requests the Secretary-General to establish annual consolidated procurement plans as a part of procurement reform;

33. Requests the Secretary-General to complete the preparation of a new Procurement Manual as soon as possible and to provide the necessary training for procurement personnel;

34. Requests the Board of Auditors to monitor and report on the completion of the new Procurement Manual in its next report and to monitor closely the implementation of its recommendation that the Procurement and Transportation Division should establish detailed guidelines on methods of invitation to bid covering all aspects of procurement, including open tendering;

35. Also requests the Board of Auditors to report in the next audit report on peacekeeping operations, in January 1998, on the status of the implementation by the Secretary-General of its recommendations concerning the administration of letters of assist;

36. Welcomes the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, 201/ notes that the Secretary-General concurs with the recommendations of the Office, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

37. Notes with concern the observations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in paragraphs 37 to 42 of its report, 202/ and requests the Secretary-General to report on the precise action taken in this regard to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

38. Endorses the recommendations contained in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on Headquarters catering operations, 203/ and requests the Secretary-General to take action to achieve consistency in policy and practice with regard to catering operations at United Nations Headquarters and Geneva.

201/ A/51/432, annex, sect. II.C; A/50/945, annex; A/50/1004; and A/51/802, annex.

202/ A/50/945, annex.

203/ A/51/802, annex.

51/232 Financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

Date: 13 June 1997
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 101
Report: A/51/724/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, 204/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 205/ and taking note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, 206/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974, by which the Council established the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1081 (1996) of 27 November 1996,

Recalling its resolution 3211 B (XXIX) of 29 November 1974 on the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 50/20 B of 7 June 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

Concerned also that the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force have been used to meet expenses of the Force in order to compensate for the lack of income resulting from non-payment and late payment by Member States of their contributions,

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204/ A/51/405/Add.1 and 2.

205/ A/51/684/Add.1.

206/ A/51/432, annex.

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 47.9 million United States dollars, representing 4.2 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force to the period ending 31 May 1997, notes that some 24 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; [207]

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force the amount of 33,616,400 dollars gross (32,714,400 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 1,248,400 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed on Member States at the monthly rate of 2,801,366 dollars gross (2,726,200 dollars net), in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, [208] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 May 1997;

8. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 888,000 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

9. Decides further that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the estimated other income of 14,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

10. Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against the assessment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,129,300 dollars gross (1,066,700 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996;

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[207] A/51/684/Add.1

[208] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

11. Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,129,300 dollars gross (1,066,700 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

12. Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against the assessment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the surplus balance of 2,358,000 dollars for the period from 1 December 1993 to 30 November 1994;

13. Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, their share of the surplus balance of 2,358,000 dollars for the period from 1 December 1993 to 30 November 1994 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

14. Invites voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session, under the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East", the subitem entitled "United Nations Disengagement Observer Force".

51/233 Financing of the United Nations Force in Lebanon

Date: 13 June 1997
Vote: 127-2-1 (recorded)
Meeting: 101
Report: A/51/725/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon 209/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 210/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, by which the Council established the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1095 (1997) of 28 January 1997,

Recalling its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 50/89 B of 7 June 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Force are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

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209/ A/51/535/Add.1 and 2.

210/ A/51/684/Add.1.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

Concerned also that the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon have been used to meet expenses of the Force in order to compensate for the lack of income resulting from non-payment and late payment by Member States of their contributions,

Recalling its resolution 50/89 B, in which it requested the Secretary-General to include in his next report on the financing of the Force a full evaluation of damages resulting from the incident that occurred at the headquarters of the Force at Qana on 18 April 1996 and the costs thereof,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as at 30 April 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 176.8 million United States dollars, representing 6.6 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force to the period ending on 30 June 1997, notes that some 16 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

5. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary questions, 211/ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon in the amount of 1,773,618 dollars to cover the costs resulting from the incident at the United Nations headquarters at Qana on 18 April 1996;

8. *Decides also* that the total amount mentioned in paragraph 7 above, namely 1,773,618 dollars, shall be borne by Israel;

9. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon the amount of 124,969,700 dollars gross (120,860,700 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 4,708,300 dollars for the support

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211/ A/51/684/Add.1.

account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed on Member States at the monthly rate of 10,414,142 dollars gross (10,071,725 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, [212] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 July 1997;

10. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 4,089,000 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

11. Decides further that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the estimated other income of 20,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

12. Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 2,863,500 dollars gross (2,679,700 dollars net) in respect of the period ending on 30 June 1996;

13. Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, their share of the unencumbered balance of 2,863,500 dollars gross (2,679,700 dollars net) for the period ending on 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

14. Invites voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session, under the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 51/233:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United

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[212] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States.

Abstaining: Russian Federation.

Absent: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Botswana*, Cameroon, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, El Salvador*, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Federated States of Micronesia, Gabon, Guinea, Iceland, Iran, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Palau, Paraguay, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu.

* Later advised the Secretariat it had intended to vote in favour.

51/234 Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

Date: 13 June 1997 Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote Report: A/51/726/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission, 213/ the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 214/ and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, 215/

Recalling Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991 and 689 (1991) of 9 April 1991, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission and to review the question of its termination or continuation every six months,

Recalling also its resolution 45/260 of 3 May 1991 on the financing of the Observation Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which were resolution 50/234 of 7 June 1996 and decision 51/440 of 16 December 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observation Mission that are not covered by voluntary contributions are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observation Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

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213/ A/51/658/Add.1 and 2.

214/ A/51/683/Add.1.

215/ A/51/432, annex.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Expressing its appreciation for the substantial voluntary contributions made to the Observation Mission by the Government of Kuwait and the contributions of other Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observation Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 9,455,734 United States dollars, representing 4 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 30 April 1997, notes that some 32 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses its continued appreciation for the decision of the Government of Kuwait to defray two thirds of the cost of the Observation Mission, effective 1 November 1993;

3. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

5. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observation Mission in full and on time;

6. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 216/ and in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services; 217/

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observation Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission the amount of 51,487,500 dollars gross (49,599,300 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observation Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of an amount of 1,952,100 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, a two-thirds share of this amount, equivalent to 33,066,200 dollars, to be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait, subject to the review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Mission;

9. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait of the two-thirds share of the cost of the Observation Mission, equivalent to 33,066,200 dollars, to apportion the amount of 18,421,300 dollars gross (16,533,100 dollars net), representing one third of the cost of the maintenance of the Observation Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of 1,535,108 dollars gross (1,377,758 dollars net), in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23

216/ A/51/683/Add.1.

217/ A/51/432, annex.

December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, 218/ subject to the review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Observation Mission;

10. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,888,200 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

11. *Decides* that, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait of the two-thirds share of the cost of the Observation Mission, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,723,200 dollars\ gross (1,440,000 dollars net), representing one third of the unencumbered balance of 4,603,200 dollars gross (4,320,000 dollars net) in respect of the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996;

12. *Decides also* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observation Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,723,200 dollars gross (1,440,000 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

13. *Decides further* that two thirds of the net unencumbered balance of 4,320,000 dollars, equivalent to 2,880,000 dollars, shall be returned to the Government of Kuwait;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to recover the overpayment of mission subsistence allowance in the estimated amount of 988,443.5 dollars and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the results of action taken for its recovery, including measures taken with respect to those responsible for the overpayment;

15. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Observation Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of the fifty-second session, under the item entitled "Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991)", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission".

51/235 Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

Date: 13 June 1997 Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote Report: 51/921

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus 219/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 220/

213/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

219/ A/51/755 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

220/ A/51/851 and Corr.1.

Recalling Security Council resolution 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964, by which the Council established the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1092 (1996) of 23 December 1996,

Recalling also its resolution 50/236 of 7 June 1996 on the financing of the Force,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Force that are not covered by voluntary contributions are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force by certain Governments,

Noting the agreement of the Government of Greece that, for the period under consideration, a proportion of its annual voluntary contribution will serve to cover, in part, the United Nations obligations regarding termination benefits payable to locally employed civilian staff,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Expressing its appreciation to all those Member States and observer States which have made voluntary contributions to the Special Account established for the financing of the Force for the period prior to 16 June 1993,

Noting that voluntary contributions were insufficient to cover all of the costs of the Force, including those incurred by troop-contributing Governments prior to 16 June 1993, and regretting the absence of an adequate response to appeals for voluntary contributions, including that contained in the letter dated 17 May 1994 from the Secretary-General to all Member States, 221/

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus as at 13 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 13,326,013 United States dollars, representing 15 per cent of the total assessed contributions from 16 June 1993 to the period ending 30 June 1997, notes that some 23 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

221/ S/1994/647.

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, [222] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus an amount of 48,000,800 dollars gross (45,877,800 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of an amount of 1,939,100 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and an amount of 1,131,000 dollars for the cost of termination benefits for locally employed civilians relating to the period of employment after 15 June 1993;

8. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions of one third of the cost of the Force, equivalent to 15,292,600 dollars, by the Government of Cyprus and of 3,731,333 dollars by the Government of Greece, to apportion the amount of 28,976,867 dollars gross (26,853,867 dollars net), including an amount of 2,768,667 dollars, as provided for in paragraph 12 below, for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of 2,414,738 dollars gross (2,237,822 dollars net), in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, [223] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 30 June 1997;

9. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 2,123,000 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

10. Decides to continue to maintain as separate the account established for the period prior to 16 June 1993 for the Force, invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to that account, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in appealing for voluntary contributions to the account;

11. Calls upon Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Special Account for the Force to enable the United Nations to meet its remaining obligations with respect to the locally employed civilian staff;

12. Notes the agreement of the Government of Greece to earmark, on an ad hoc basis, for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, an amount of 2,768,667 dollars from its annual voluntary contribution of 6.5 million dollars to the Force, for this purpose;

13. Invites voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

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[222] A/51/851 and Corr.1.

[223] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

14. Requests the Secretary-General to direct the Office of Internal Oversight Services to evaluate and to report to the General Assembly on the events and circumstances that led to United Nations responsibility for termination pay to the locally employed civilians in the Force, including all aspects of accountability and responsibility of United Nations staff;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus".

51/236 Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

Date: 13 June 1997	Meeting: 101
Adopted without a vote	Report: A/51/503/Add.1

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, 224/ the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 225/ and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, 226/

Recalling Security Council resolution 854 (1993) of 6 August 1993, by which the Council approved the deployment of an advance team of up to ten United Nations military observers for a period of three months and the incorporation of the advance team into a United Nations observer mission if such a mission was formally established by the Council,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 858 (1993) of 24 August 1993, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1096 (1997) of 30 January 1997,

Recalling further its decision 48/475 A of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was decision 51/406 of 17 October 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observer Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Observer Mission,

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224/ A/51/793 and Add.1.

225/ A/51/855.

226/ A/51/432, annex.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 6 million United States dollars, representing 12 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Observer Mission to the period ending 30 June 1997, notes that some 20 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 227/

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia the amount of 18,580,500 dollars gross (17,582,100 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 765,300 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of 1,548,375 dollars gross (1,465,175 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, 228/ subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Observer Mission beyond 31 July 1997;

8. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 998,400 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

9. Decides further that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,056,950 dollars gross (831,900 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1996;

227/ A/51/855.

228/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

10. Decides that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,056,950 dollars gross (831,900 dollars net) for the period ending 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

11. Invites voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia".

51/237 Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

Date: 13 June 1997
Adopted without a vote
Meeting: 101
Report: A/51/920

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, 229/ the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 230/ and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, 231/

Recalling Security Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission of Observers, the latest of which was resolution 1099 (1997) of 14 March 1997,

Recalling also its resolution 49/240 of 31 March 1995 on the financing of the Mission of Observers and its resolution 50/238 of 7 June 1996,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission of Observers are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission of Observers, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission of Observers,

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229/ A/51/784 and Add.1 and 2.

230/ A/51/850.

231/ A/51/432, annex.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission of Observers with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan as at 15 May 1997, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 2,508,489 United States dollars, representing 13 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission of Observers to the period ending 15 June 1997, notes that some 13 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission of Observers in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 232/ and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services; 233/

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission of Observers is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan the amount of 8,275,700 dollars gross (7,721,300 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission of Observers for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 308,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of 689,642 dollars gross (643,442 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 A and B of 18 December 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and 1998, 234/ subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 15 June 1997;

8. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 554,400 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

232/ A/51/850.

233/ A/51/432, annex.

234/ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

9. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,548,000 dollars gross (1,402,800 dollars net) in respect of the period from 17 June to 15 December 1995;

10. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,548,000 dollars gross (1,402,800 dollars net) for the period from 17 June to 15 December 1995 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

11. *Decides also* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 1,312,200 dollars gross (1,260,800 dollars net) in respect of the period from 16 December 1995 to 30 June 1996;

12. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission of Observers, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,312,200 dollars gross (1,260,800 dollars net) for the period from 16 December 1995 to 30 June 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations.

13. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission of Observers in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

14. *Invites* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established in accordance with paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 968 (1994);

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan".

51/239 *Support account for peacekeeping operations*

Resolution	*Date*	*Vote*	*Meeting*	*Draft*
A	17 June 1997	Adopted without a vote	102	A/51/753/Add.2
B	15 September 1997	Adopted without a vote	107	A/51/753/Add.3

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993, 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, 48/226 C of 29 July 1994, 49/250 of 20 July 1995, 50/221 A of 11 April 1996, 50/221 B of 7 June 1996 and 51/226 of 3 April 1997 and its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations[235] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[236] as well as the views expressed by Member States in the Fifth Committee,[237]

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[235] A/51/890 and A/C.5/51/52.

[236] A/51/906 and Corr.1.

[237] See A/C.5/51/SR.70.

Reaffirming the need to continue to improve the administrative and financial management of peacekeeping operations,

Noting the recent significant decline in peacekeeping expenditure, and recognizing that this should lead to a commensurate decline in backstopping requirements funded through the support account for peacekeeping operations,

Recognizing the need for adequate support during all phases of peacekeeping operations, including the liquidation and termination phases of peacekeeping operations,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations; 238/

2. Also takes note of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 239/

3. Regrets the delayed submission by the Secretary-General of his report on the support account, and decides that his next report on the support account for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, should be submitted no later than 31 March 1998;

4. Also regrets the non-compliance of the Secretary-General with the request in paragraph 8 of its resolution 50/221 B to submit a comprehensive proposal on the total requirement for human resources from all sources of funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations;

5. Emphasizes that it is necessary to have fully substantiated and comprehensive proposals for the total requirements for human and material resources from all sources of funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, including from the regular budget, trust funds and voluntary contributions, both in cash and in kind, during the period of the support account proposal;

6. Reiterates its requests to the Secretary-General in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of its resolution 50/221 B, in preparing his annual proposals for the support account, and taking into consideration the temporary nature of the current level of resources, to review and substantiate comprehensively the entire post and non-post requirements for the support account; in preparing his report on the support account for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, to submit a comprehensive proposal on the total requirement for human resources from all sources of funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, including posts financed from the regular budget and trust funds, officers on loan from Member States and other voluntary contributions during the period, to enable the General Assembly to decide on the level of human resources required; and to submit proposals that reflect as closely as possible the overall evolution of peacekeeping budgets and any additional relevant observations and recommendations regarding the lessons learned from the previous year of operation of the support account;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit an in-depth evaluation and subsequent budgetary proposals that reflect as closely as possible the overall evolution of peacekeeping trends, including any relevant restructuring of the various divisions and units involved in backstopping activities, taking into account the lessons learned from previous years' experience of operating the support account and the workload relating to closed and completed missions;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second regular session the evaluation portion of the above-mentioned report;

238/ A/51/890 and A/C.5/51/52.

239/ A/51/906 and Corr.1.

9. Regrets the lack of a performance report on the operation of the support account in the context of the annual consideration by the General Assembly of the proposals of the Secretary-General for the account, as requested in paragraph 6 of its resolution 50/221 B;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, in his report on the support account for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, to submit a performance report, including information on redeployments, if any, between units, covering the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997 and the period from 1 July to 31 December 1997;

11. Affirms the need for adequate funding for backstopping of peacekeeping operations;

12. Decides to maintain for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998 the funding mechanism for the support account provisionally approved in paragraph 3 of its resolution 50/221 B;

13. Approves, for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, the proposals of the Secretary-General with regard to post and non-post resource requirements as contained in his report of 7 May 1997 240/ as amended by the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 33 and 37 of its report, 241/ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

14. Approves an appropriation in the amount of 158,500 United States dollars under general temporary assistance for the sole purpose of processing the backlog of claims referred to in paragraph 16 below;

15. Endorses the recommendation of the Advisory Committee to create one P-4 post and one General Service post in the Claims and Information Management Section of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, 242/ and requests the Secretary-General to utilize the P-2 post proposed for redeployment to the Personnel Management and Support Service 243/ for processing claims in the Claims and Information Management Section;

16. Notes from the information provided by the Secretariat that the current backlog of death and disability claims is 564;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly quarterly written reports on the progress made in clearing the backlog;

18. Takes note of the usefulness of the lessons learned capacity, and requests the Secretary-General to submit, no later than 31 August 1997, for consideration during the third part of its resumed fifty-first session, proposals on resources and structure to strengthen the functions and to ensure the sharing and application of experience gained in peacekeeping operations;

19. Approves an appropriation of 1 million dollars for the rental of premises;

20. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into additional commitments not exceeding 808,500 dollars for the rental of premises;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to include in the performance report information on the use of resources provided for the rental of premises since 1992;

240/ A/51/890.

241/ A/51/906 and Corr.1.

242/ See A/51/906 and Corr.1, para. 22.

243/ See A/51/890, annex I.A, para. 35.

22. Decides that officers in the Office of Operations of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations whose workload has been reduced owing to the ending of some peacekeeping operations should be detailed to assist in eliminating the backlog;

23. Reaffirms the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly in which it requested the Secretary-General to fill the vacant support account posts as soon as possible, in a manner consistent with those resolutions and the Staff Rules and Regulations;

24. Decides that posts funded from the support account shall be filled and managed in compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the Staff Rules and Regulations of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

25. Calls upon the Secretary-General to stop immediately the practice of giving personnel on short-term appointments consultant contracts for a short period and then rehiring them on short-term appointments in violation of the spirit of open and transparent recruiting practices;

26. Requests the Secretary-General to assign the functions referred to in paragraphs 16, 17 and 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 244/ to personnel occupying approved posts and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, no later than 31 March 1998.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 18 of its resolution 51/239 of 17 June 1997,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations: Lessons Learned Unit 245/ and the related statement by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the views expressed by Member States in the Fifth Committee, 246/

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations: Lessons Learned Unit; 247/

2. Also takes note of the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the rates of vacancy of support account posts, which were 14.2 per cent for posts in the Professional category and above and 5.1 per cent for posts in the General Service category as at 31 August 1997;

3. Notes the usefulness of the lessons learned capacity;

4. Decides to redeploy, on a temporary basis, for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1998, three posts, namely, one P-4, one P-2/1 and one General Service post, funded from the support account for peacekeeping operations, to carry out the functions described in the report of the Secretary-General, 248/ and also decides to revert to this issue for its consideration in future budget proposals.

244/ A/51/906 and Corr.1.

245/ A/51/965.

246/ See A/C.5/51/SR.73.

247/ A/51/965.

248/ Ibid.

51/243 Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities

Date: 15 September 1997
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 107
Report: A/51/922/Add.2

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on gratis personnel 249/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 250/

Expressing serious concern at the impact on the geographical balance in some parts of the Secretariat of the presence of gratis personnel, in particular in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations,

Recognizing that the use of gratis personnel, other than those performing supplementary activities, should be on an exceptional and temporary basis and for specialized functions only,

1. Emphasizes that gratis personnel are not a substitute for staff to be recruited against authorized posts for the implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

2. Reaffirms that the programme of work and mandates approved by Member States must be financed in the manner determined by the General Assembly, based upon proposals of the Secretary-General;

3. Decides that gratis personnel should not be sought for financial reasons;

4. Decides also that the Secretary-General can accept type II gratis personnel 251/ only in the following circumstances:

(a) After the approval of a budget, to provide expertise not available within the Organization for very specialized functions, as identified by the Secretary-General, and for a limited and specified period of time;

(b) To provide temporary and urgent assistance in the case of new and/or expanded mandates of the Organization, pending a decision by the General Assembly on the level of resources required to implement those mandates;

5. Decides further, in this regard, that the relevant budget resolutions and procedures relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures, peacekeeping operations and tribunals will govern the acceptance of the gratis personnel referred to in paragraph 4 of the present resolution;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report on a quarterly basis to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, on the acceptance of the gratis personnel referred to in paragraph 4, for appropriate action, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of the present resolution;

7. Emphasizes that the relevant General Assembly resolutions and financial regulations and rules should be fully respected when accepting gratis personnel in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution;

249/ A/51/688 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3.

250/ A/51/813.

251/ See A/51/688 and Corr.1, paras. 24-40.

8. Emphasizes also that it is necessary that fully substantiated and comprehensive proposals on the total requirements from all sources of funding be presented so as to enable the General Assembly to decide on the level of resources required to implement fully all mandated programmes and activities, and requests the Secretary-General to present all future budgets and budget outlines in that manner, in accordance with Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to phase out expeditiously type II gratis personnel who fall outside the scope of paragraph 4 of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

10. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-second session, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for appropriate action, on the methodology to be applied to and the level of administrative support costs and, in the interim, to maintain the status quo in this regard;

11. Further requests the Secretary-General to revise the draft guidelines set out in his reports on gratis personnel in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution and taking into account the following principles, and to submit them to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for its approval at its fifty-second session:

(a) Gratis personnel should be subject to the criteria laid down in Article 100 and paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) In the performance of their duties, gratis personnel should have the same obligations and responsibilities as staff members;

(c) Gratis personnel should carry out their functions in accordance with all applicable regulations, rules and procedures of the Organization;

(d) The selection process for gratis personnel should be transparent and conducted on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and, if there is a need for gratis personnel as provided for in the present resolution, all Member States should be informed;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to report annually on the use of gratis personnel, indicating, inter alia, their nationality and summarizing the duration of their service and the functions performed;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the consideration by the General Assembly of the question of gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities to report on the impact of the implementation of paragraphs 4 (b) and 9 of the present resolution and to submit proposals in this regard to the Assembly at its fifty-second session, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for appropriate action;

14. Decides to consider the question at its fifty-second session.

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